MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 MARCH 1982

Libya

Commenting on the U.S. Navy secretary's announcement that the 6th Fleet will hold further maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra, JANA said that if the announcement is confirmed, the only explanation for it is that the United States has decided to invade Libya. In this case, Libya must prepare to confront a big state, and this means a "third world war is imminent." The United States would be responsible for such a war because an aggression in the Gulf of Sidra is an aggression against Libya's territorial integrity, JANA added.

Israel

'Ali Visit -- A solution to the dispute over the Tabah area seemed to have been found during a 2-hour conversation between Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Prime Minister Menahem Begin, according to Jerusalem radio. Israelis who work and live in the area will continue to do so without permits, but the radio carried conflicting reports as to whether Israel will recognize Egyptian sovereignty over Tabah. In a joint interview with 'Ali and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon carried by Jerusalem radio's English service, Sharon rejected a question as to whether Israel will delay its withdrawal from the Sinai if the border dispute is not solved, stressing instead that the dispute will be resolved. Describing his talks with Begin as "very friendly," 'Ali said they agreed to give new momentum to the autonomy talks but added that technical differeices over the borderline still exist and will be discussed by the joint higher committee.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak asked in a message to Begin delivered by 'Ali that his visit be postponed to a "more propitious time," and Begin replied that he would be glad to receive Mubarak "heartily" whenever he decides to make an official visit to Israel, IDF radio reported.

In his talks with 'Ali, Begin rejected a proposal to convene the autonomy talks in Washington at the experts level, emphasizing that the talks must be held in the region without outside pressure, Jerusalem radio reported. It also noted that after a meeting with 'Ali and Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, Interior Minister Yosef Burg said that a proposal was raised to resume the autonomy negotiations at the ministerial level, but this matter must be decided by the prime minister.

'Ali responded favorably to Sharon's request that Egypt take measures to foil attempts by terrorist organizations to transfer explosives and arms from Egypt to the Gaza strip, Jerusalem television reported.

In talks between 'Ali and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir the two decided to meet every 3 months to solve current problems, IDF radio announced.

A bilateral committee will attempt to settle the Tabah dispute without resorting to arbitration, and in the meantime neither country will have clear sovereignty over the area and both will refrain from moving soldiers or policemen into it, IDF radio reported. It added, however, that Sharon told the Egyptian visitors that all border arrangemens must be completed 1 week prior to the Sinai withdrawal.

According to Jerusalem radio, sources in the Egyptian delegation said Israeli proposals on Tabah would be submitted to Mubarak for a decision, but some delegation members hinted that 'Ali believes Mubarak will find it hard to accept the Israeli positions because he promised his people that Egypt would receive all of the Sinai down to the last centimeter by 25 April.

Golan Druze Strike -- The IDF imposed a curfew on the Druze village of Majdal Shams after a demonstration during which villagers tried to overturn military vehicles, Jerusalem radio reported.

Lebanon

Diplomatic Security, South -- The kidnapped British Embassy employee has been released, Beirut radio reported. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, the staff of the Bahraini Embassy has left Lebanon after receiving threats that Bahrain's policy must be rectified to conform with the major Arab policies.

In the south, UN officers visited Beaufort Castle to prepare for the stationing of a UN observation post there, Jerusalem radio noted.

Call for Christian Unity -- Former President Sulayman Franjiyah has called for the reunification of Christian ranks, Voice of Lebanon said.

GCC

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) chiefs of staff concluded their meeting in Riyadh, Riyadh television reported. According to KUNA, they discussed the stregnthening of GCC defenses, a "general image of coordinated action" among GCC armies, the establishment of a Gulf "war industry" and the results of a GCC military mission to Bahrain and Oman.

YAR

An official source announced the capture of a group of terrorists caught infiltrating the country, AFP reported. Earlier, AFP reported that a North Yemeni opposition leader told a news conference in Beirut that Saudi-backed government forces had resumed the offensive against National Democratic Front forces, which shot down two government aircraft.

Iran

Relations With Syria -- Iran and Syria have signed a joint political communique, an oil agreement and a 10-year protocol for trade exchange, Tehran radio reported. Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati described the talks with the visiting Syrian delegation as very fruitful, the radio noted, and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said Iran and Syria have strengthened their relations and achieved valuable results. Before his delegation's return to Syria, Khaddam told a press conference that the two countries will conclude cultural, scientific and technological cooperation agreements at a later date, Damascus television reported. He also said the agreements reached provide for an annual trade exchange worth more than $2 billion. According to Tehran radio, Iran will export 9 million tons of oil to Syria annually and the Syrians are ready to export 1 million tons of phosphates to Iran. Iran's commerce minister said in a radio interview that Syria also plans to supply Iran with textiles and foodstuffs, while Iran hopes to export nonoil items to Syria if the latter changes its commercial regulations.

Trade With Uruguay -- Iran will export oil worth $80 million to Uruguay and import foodstuffs worth $60 million, Tehran radio reported.

Nuclear Technology -- The head of the Esfahan Nuclear Technology Center said Iran is taking concrete measures to import nuclear technology, IRNA reported. Iran has completed the preliminary design of a subcritical reactor, he added, and plans to produce uranium ingots within 6 months.

Nabavi Hague Visit -- Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi left for the Netherlands to review the implementation of the Algerian agreement and the progress of Iranian claims at the International Court of Justice, Tehran radio noted.

Arrests -- Tehran radio reported that 17 armed rebels were captured by revolution guards in the Bushehr region.

Pakistan

Delhi radio reported that the Pakistani authorities have detained 3,500 people in a crackdown on opposition activists.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT ON AREA DEVELOPMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS

GF161700 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 12 Mar 82 p 12

[Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of PLO Executive Committee, in Beirut -- date not given]

[Excerpts] Do you believe Prince Fahd's Middle East peace plan has been completely rejected?

[Answer] Prince Fahd's peace plan was not discussed during the recent Arab summit, because the summit conference itself was not held. The agenda for the conference, which included the Saudi peace plan, was suspended.

[Question] When the circumstances allow. We want it to be resumed as soon as possible because of its importance for Arab solidarity. Definite contacts have taken place among the Arab leaders in this regard, but in separate forms.

[Question] What is your view of the recent statements by Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, who called for the immediate and unconditional recognition of Israel?

[Answer] Ilyas Frayj has withdrawn his remarks and made new statements that are totally compatible with the PLO line. We recognize the mayor of Bethlehem as one of the Palestinian strugglers.

[Question] What is the possibility of holding negotiations between the Palestinians and Israel?

[Answer] First, I would like to specify that we do not believe there will be any negotiations between the Palestinians and Israel. Israel occupied our territories, expelled 60 percent of our people and is oppressing the remaining 40 percent.

Moreover, Israel disregards the presence of the Palestinian people, UN resolutions and specifically our right to return and establish a Palestinian state. Don't forget that Begin and Shamir are wanted by Interpol, according to British archives.

[Question] Do you believe the Camp David accords will hold after the restoration of the Sinai to Egypt?

[Answer] Many European leaders admit the Camp David accords are reaching a deadlock. It seems the same to some leaders in the United States, such as former leaders Ford, Carter, Nixon and Brzezinski.

[Question] Is there any alternative to the Camp David accords?

[Answer] Yes, the UN resolutions on Palestinian rights.

[Question] What has President Husni Mubarak's policy achieved since his assumption of the leadership in Egypt?

[Answer] We prefer to wait to see the results of President Mubarak's policy.

[Question] Do you believe President Mubarak must be invited to the next Arab summit?

[Answer] The most important thing is to wait in order to know his policy. We have nothing against anybody.

[Question] In order to be more accurate, must Egypt be invited to attend the next Arab summit?

[Answer] Yes, if Egypt changes its policy. We have much respect for the Egyptian people, because they are a struggling people and because they have great influence on the situation in the Arab world.

[Question] Has President Francois Mitterand's visit to Israel reinforced ties between Paris and Israel?

[Answer] Regretfully, yes. It shows the contradiction that exists between the principles of French foreign policy and its practical application. Throughout the Arab world we have discussed sanctions that can be imposed on France for this visit. The fact that he is the first French president to visit Israel should be taken into consideration.

[Question] Do you believe Spain can act as mediator between Europe and the Arab world?

[Answer] Yes, I believe so. This is what I said during my visit to Madrid. Don't forget that Spain is one of the few European countries which does not recognize Israel.

[Question] Can this situation change when Spain joins NATO?

[Answer] I don't believe so. For example, Greece, which is a NATO member, recently raised our diplomatic representation in Athens to embassy level.

[Question] Do you have evidence of a possible Israeli attack on southern Lebanon?

[Answer] Yes, Israeli troop concentrations on the Lebanese border are very big. Moreover, the Israeli Navy is completely besieging the Lebanese coast while enjoying the green light from the U.S. 6th Fleet. We must not forget that Israeli aircraft violate Lebanese airspace daily, over Beirut and southern Lebanon.

[Question] Do the Palestinian forces depend on the support of other Arab countries in case of an Israeli attack on southern Lebanon?

[Answer] The most I can say is that the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces will fight with all their resources against Israeli aggression.

[Question] Is there a Palestinian presence in Latin America?

[Answer] There are 150,000 Palestinians working in various fields in Latin America. They live in the same misery and they have the same feelings as the Latin American people. If you want to talk about the statements on the existence of Palestinian planes in Nicaragua, I tell you that in these statements I was responding to Haig's statements in which he expressed surprise over the very good relations between Nicaragua and the PLO. We have never hidden our relations with the Sandinist comrades. We will help them as friends as much as we can.

[Question] And in El Salvador?

[Answer] We are against the dictatorship of Jose Napolean Duarte, and we support the people in their struggle. We are revolutionaries and this is the reason for our continuous support for the oppressed.

[Question] Have you noticed any changes in the PLO's relations with the United States and Israel?

[Answer] Yes, there are changes, but they are negative ones. Israeli policy has overruled and influenced U.S. policy. The proof of this is the strategic alliance between Israel and the United States. Israel receives unlimited economic, military and political support, and on all levels, against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

[Question] Recently, there have been rumors in Western Europe that Israeli intelligence had pursued a PDRY plane while you were on board. Is this true?

[Answer] It is true that the Israelis chased a PDRY plane, but I was not on board.

PLO'S MAYZAR SEES MIDEAST AT TURNING POINT

PM151609 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 7 Mar 82 p 5

[Ahmed Fattani interview with PLO Spokesman Abu Mayzar: "Near East Is at Important and Dangerous Political Turning Point" -- date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] Question: Messrs Benyahia [Algerian Foreign Minister] and Qaddumi [head of PLO Foreign Policy Department] have just signed a cultural agreement -- the first of its kind between an Arab government and the PLO. What significance can be attached to this event?

Answer: This agreement is the first of its kind to be concluded between the PLO and the Algerian Republic. It deals with cultural cooperation and education while having a political nature, since Algeria has never ceased to cooperate with the PLO as a state. We greatly appreciate this initiative by the Algerian Government. This is not surprising, since the Palestinian revolution maintains privileged relations with Algeria which bear witness to their development to the advantage of our common struggle. We are very happy to sign this agreement, which is of a historic nature because of its importance. Algeria is the first Arab country to open an office of the Palestinian revolution and the first Arab country to sign today this agreement, which is of profound political significance.

Question: Francois Mitterrand's visit to occupied Palestine has provoked widespread protest throughout the Arab world. How does the PLO interpret the first visit by a European head of state to the Zionist administration?

Answer: President Francois Mitterrand's visit to occupied Palestine is detrimental to the French people's principles and to Franco-Palestinian and Franco-Arab relations. We were expecting Francois Mitterrand to be inspired in his stand on the Palestinian cause and the Near East crisis by the principles of justice and France's real interests. The French people -- we know -- are in favor of justice and condemn aggression. So in our opinion this visit certainly does not reflect the French people's traditional stands. At the time of De Gaulle France condemned the Zionist aggression against the Arabs in 1967, and maintained that stand in one way or another under Pompidou and Giscard d'Estaing. Unfortunately, Francois Mitterrand has now insisted on paying a visit to occupied Palestine and Begin's terrorist government.

Nobody is unaware that Begin is a very well-known international terrorist, as is his foreign minister. He has already been sentenced for murdering the diplomat Bernadotte in 1948. Moreover, Francois Mitterrand has accepted the invitation of a fascist and racist government which is notorious for its rightwing practices and repudiates international law and the UN Charter. This visit follows the annexation of the Golan Heights and Jerusalem, the publication of the Security Council decision condemning that annexation and the UN principles. It runs counter to the French people's real interests and does not contribute at all to the development of Franco-Arab relations. However, we wish Francois Mitterrand success and distinguish his stand from that of several French Socialist Party [PS] leaders. President Mitterrand experiences Zionist influence inside and outside the Elysee Palace, whereas several Socialist leaders support the Palestinian cause. So this visit does not express their stands. Nevertheless, we would have liked Mitterrand to refuse to pay this visit, thus escaping the influence of the Zionists and even of the Americans, who are also seeking to compromise France, which has been able to preserve a special place in the Near East. So in visiting occupied Palestine Mitterrand is merely supporting aggression and encouraging Begin's fascist and racist practices.

Question: Do you see a change of foreign policy in post-As-Sadat Egypt? How do you assess Mubarak's recent statements, both on the PLO and on his stated wish to continue the negotiations or pseudoautonomy?

Answer: Husni Mubarak's foreign policy, as far as the Near East crisis and the Palestinian cause are concerned, differs in no way as a whole from that of As-Sadat. Husni Mubarak has asserted his attachment to the Camp David agreements and the commitments undertaken with Israel, although the latter infringe Egypt's sovereignty in the first place and violate the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. So far there has been no change in Egypt's foreign policy, except the manner of expressing that policy, which is natural, because Mubarak is not As-Sadat.

The Camp David agreements and the Israeli-Egyptian treaty have remained unchanged. Internal events in Egypt are forcing Mubarak to make statements about the PLO and to recognize it. Even As-Sadat was forced before his death to recognize the PLO at the time of his last visit to the United States. By force of circumstances the PLO has become a specific reality which represents the Palestinian people's existence and unity. The PLO is the Palestinian people's conscience, cause and rights. Our organization has faced up to all the U.S., Zionist and all As-Sadat's attempts to destroy or disregard it. We regard the continuation of the autonomy talks as illegitimate and condemn any agreement resulting from these talks, because nobody has the right to speak on behalf of the PLO and of the Palestinian people's self-determination. Only the PLO has the right to express the Palestinian people's national will. Certain false reports from the Western, and sometimes Egyptian, mass media claim there are contacts between the PLO and Husni Mubarak's regime. It is untrue. The PLO Executive Committee is respecting the commitments concerning the Egyptian regime undertaken at the time of the Baghdad summit. Our stand will remain immutable as long as there is no radical change in Egypt.

Question: Do you think the Near East is on the eve of a political turning point? If so, where do you situate that turning point?

Answer: There is no doubt the Near East is now at an important and dangerous turning point because the United States is concentrating on extending its hegemony in this region. It is working to destroy the national economic and social achievements of the past 25 years. Through the concept of a strategic agreement it is trying to give the Arabs the illusion that common interests can exist between the Arabs and their enemy. That policy will be doomed to failure because it is in complete contradiction with the interests of the Near East's peoples and deliberately ignores the root of the conflict, which is the Palestinian problem. Not only does the United States ignore the Palestinian people's rights but it is also allied with the Zionist enemy by a strategic agreement and it talks of the region as a vital sphere for it and the Zionist administration. That policy is in contradiction with the will, interests and aspirations of the region's peoples. By seeking to implant military bases in the Near East and to establish military, political and economic domination, America is aggravating the situation and encouraging dangerous developments. Everybody is aware that the United States is working for the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war because it wants to destroy the two peoples' achievements. It aims to paralyze the region in face of the constant danger of Zionism. It is waging campaigns, making threats and maintaining tension against the regimes of the region. However, despite all those attempts we are sure American influence in the Near East will be weakened very soon.

Question: How do you interpret the diplomatic maneuvering in the Maghreb region with visits by U.S., French and British emissaries?

Answer: The United States obviously attaches great importance to the Near East, which enjoys a strategic position. Its aim is to control the energy resources and to end the Arab-Israeli conflict in favor of the Zionist enemy, not in the direction of law, justice and lasting peace. Events have shown that the United States is aiming neither at the establishment of peace nor at a lasting settlement in the Near East, since it still adheres to the Camp David accords and persists with the autonomy conspiracy despite their rejection by the Palestinian people, the Arab world and the United Nations which has confirmed the illegitimacy of the agreement. The United States has managed to force some NATO countries into participating in the multinational force in the Sinai, in other words, it has involved them in the plans and strategy of Camp David, rejected by the Arabs and the Palestinian people. The visits by U.S. emissaries to the region were designed to back up the establishment of military bases. The visits reveal the belligerent U.S. policy toward the Arabs. The U.S. emissaries do not conceal their intentions or the aims of their visits. When Alexander Haig visited Morocco he clearly stated his aim was to secure military facilities and bases on Moroccan territory. The same applies to Weinberger, who did not conceal his intention of strengthening U.S. influence during his visit to Near Eastern countries. As for, Britain and France, they are trying to secure Arab resources and oil through their repeated visits to the region. Nevertheless, the European countries' role is clear, because they cannot pursue a policy independent of the United States. We do not have -- and will never have -- any illusions about the stands of the French and British Governments, which have hitherto been dependent on U.S. policy.

This is why we appreciate the bold policy pursued by socialist Greece, when it specifically asserted its independence by recognizing the PLO and the Palestinian people's national rights by inviting Yasir 'Arafat to Athens and opening a PLO office having diplomatic status.

Our political view of Europe is not necessarily the same with regard to the stands adopted by European governments and public opinion, by political and social movements. We know there are no real contradictions between our interests and those of the European peoples. This is why we consider the European scene very important, and we can state that the Palestinian revolution has achieved -- and will achieve many more -- major successes.

Question: Southern Lebanon remains the target for further Israeli attacks. Can one talk in terms of an Israeli-U.S. plan of attack soon to be put into effect?

Answer: Part of southern Lebanon has long been subject to occupation and to continuous Israeli threats and attacks. Israel does not conceal its plans to attack and to expand into southern Lebanon, since it has never ceased coveting the area. The last occasion was last July's "25-day war," when Israel attacked the capital, Beirut. Now another Zionist attack is being planned. Even the Israeli political and military leaders are talking about this attack, and we have reports and intelligence from within the occupied territories, from southern Lebanon and even from some friendly capitals, concerning the Israelis' belligerent plans. Be that as it may, we know there is an agreement between the United States and Israel on this matter. The Israeli military concentrations are a clear sign of an imminent attack, at a time when the United States itself is trying to interfere increasingly in the internal affairs of Lebanon and the Arab world.

Question: The quest for a just and all-round settlement of the Near East issue inevitably implies the PLO participation. By means of what kind of process would demarches in this direction be feasible? What is possible now in this direction? Could an international conference with the PLO's participation resolve the problem? Under what conditions could it be held?

Answer: Israel's actions have obstructed the possibility of a fair and global settlement of the Near East problem, following the annexation of Jerusalem and the Golan.

The Palestinian people demand to return to their country, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state in Palestine. The PLO is the only national liberation movement that has managed to assert its legitimacy worldwide and within the United Nations. It struggles within the framework of international law. We believe that only the United Nations can bring about a just solution to the Palestinian issue.

Question: What can be expected of the coming Arab summit meeting? Can the Saudi plan be considered aborted?

Answer: First, we must understand that the Arab summit is a meeting at which the Arab leaders must take unanimous decisions for dealing with the Zionist aggression. The Arab solidarity in which we place our trust must be real solidarity, not pseudosolidarity. Arab solidarity exists when there is a joint will at the level of the Arab summit. The PLO is working for the establishment of Arab solidarity to deal with the Zionist aggression backed by the United States, because real Arab solidarity takes into account the interests of the Arab masses, the Arab nation and the Palestinian people.

The PLO already adopted a stand at the Fes meeting of foreign ministers concerning the Saudi plan, which conflicts with the position of the Palestine National Council. Any plan for the settlement of the Palestinian problem and of the Near East problem depends primarily on the will of the Palestinians and the Syrians. The Saudi plan presented in Fes was not discussed by the PLO. Nevertheless, we did take decisions concerning the plan at meeting of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front's Political Commission on 17 November and at the foreign ministers' meeting in Fes. We believe the Arabs have had time to reflect on the plan, particularly since the annexation of the Golan. As far as we are concerned, we do not trust U.S. policy, which is still based on the Camp David accords. At the next summit the Arabs must adopt a strategy for really facing up to Zionist aggression, strengthen their potential and consolidate relations with friendly countries which support Arab rights so as to stand up to Zionist aggression and thus establish a real solidarity capable of liberating our occupied territories.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC CHIEFS OF STAFF DISCUSS MILITARY COOPERATION

LD161058 Kuwait KUNA in English 1011 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Mar (KUNA) -- Chiefs of staff of the armed forces of the Gulf Cooperation Council member states resumed their meetings here Tuesday with a closed session which was attended by the secretary general of the GCC, 'Abdallah Bisharah.

The staff chiefs are continuing their discussion of the agenda which includes the abilities of the armed forces in the six Gulf states and the needs of some of these forces to strengthen their defence potential.

Discussions also include a general image of coordinated action between the armies of these countries.

They will also discuss the bases for establishing a Gulf war industry and the practical results of the visit of the Gulf military mission to Bahrain and Oman.

The chiefs of staff started their meetings on Monday in Riyadh.

Meeting Ends

LD161156 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1135 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 16 Mar (SPA) -- The armed forces chiefs of staff of the six Gulf Cooperation Council members today ended their second meeting which began yesterday at the headquarters of the council's general secretariat.

At the meeting a number of decisions and recommendations on defense cooperation and coordination among the council states were adopted in accordance with the decisions and recommendations of the conference of defense ministers of the six states.

KUWAIT

BULGARIAN PRESIDENT ZHIVKOV CONCLUDES VISIT

Talks With Amir

LD161048 Kuwait KUNA in English 1000 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Mar (KUNA) -- Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov paid a visit to H.H. the amir at 9:30 this morning at the Sayf Palace where official talks were held.

Minister for the amiri diwan affairs said the talks were centered on bilateral relations between the two friendly states and means of promoting them in all fields in addition to the international situation in general.

An atmosphere of cordiality, understanding and a spirit of friendship prevailed over the talks.

Zhivkov arrived here Monday on a three-day official visit to Kuwait.

Tours Faylakah Island

LD161736 Kuwait KUNA in English 1607 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Mar (KUNA) -- His highness the amir and Kuwait's distinguished guest H.E. President Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria visited Faylakah Island this morning following a round of official talks at Sayf Palace.

At ten o'clock, the procession of the two leaders headed to Ras' al-Ardh Club in Salamiyah where H.H. the amir and his guest were received by Kuwaiti girl-guides lined up waving Kuwaiti and Bulgarian flags and carrying pictures of the two heads of state.

The girls were chanting folklore anthems and songs and throwing flowers on the procession.

After a one-hour voyage, the two leaders arrived at Faylakah port where they were received by Governor of the Capital Shaykh Salim Sabah an-Nasir, the island's mukhtar (mayor) and senior officials in addition to the board chairman of Kuwait's touristic enterprises company.

The two leaders were also given a popular ovation by the island's residents who staged folklore dances in a demonstration of joy. According to Arab traditions of hospitality, camels and sheep were slaughtered amid an atmosphere of exuberant delight in celebration of the visit.

Along the road from the port to the island's other facilities, girls and schoolboys lined up chanting slogans and carrying pictures of the two leaders and placards hailing friendship with the Bulgarian people.

H.H. the amir and the Bulgarian president made a visit to Faylakah's archaeological museum where they were received by the Undersecretary of Information Ministry Shaykh Nasir Muhammed al-Ahmad as-Sabah along with ranking officials.

The two leaders were briefed on the history of the island's archaeology, later they toured Faylakah's popular museum and the island's touristic venture of Kuwait enterprises company where H.H. the amir and the distinguished guest cut the tape inaugurating a new facility in presence of the company's board chairman Abdallah Yusuf al-Qatami.

Later, the two leaders inspected a model of a modern chalet designed by the company. Lunch was then served in a large Arab tent set up on the beach after H.H. the amir offered the noon prayer at the island's mosque.

At four o'clock the two leaders and the accompanying delegation were ferried back to Kuwait. As for the five thousand residents of the island, it was an unforgettable day.

Departs 17 Mar

LD170926 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 17 Mar (KUNA) -- Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov left here today following a 3-day official visit during which he held talks with Kuwait Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. The two leaders discussed strengthening economic cooperation in addition to political issues of mutual interest.

The visit was crowned with the signing of five cooperation agreements in the economic, commercial, marine, cultural and tourist spheres.

In a statement prior to his departure the Bulgarian president expressed "deep satisfaction" with the results of his visit to Kuwait. He said his talks with Shaykh Jabir "took place in a constructive and cordial atmosphere and confirmed our belief that the relations between our two countries, built on the bases of mutual respect and common interests, are good."

He added that the agreements signed between the two countries "express the common desire of our two peoples to develop relations of cooperation.

Zhivkov pointed out that he discussed with the amir of Kuwait "some aspects of international relations and noted that the currently tense and complex international situation makes it imperative to make use of all potentials to strengthen cooperation and peace among peoples."

He expressed Bulgaria's "strong" support for the Arab peoples.

Communique Issued on Visit

LD171138 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Mar 82

["Joint communique" on visit to Kuwait of Chairman of the Bulgarian State Council Todor Zhivkov]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At the invitation of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, His Excellency the Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Mr Todor Zhivkov paid an official visit to the State of Kuwait from 15 to 17 March 1982. The honorable guest was accorded a warm welcome expressing the sentiments of friendship existing between the Kuwaiti and Bulgarian peoples. Official talks were held between His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, and Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria His Excellency Todor Zhivkov, in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

During these talks, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations. The two sides also exchanged views on current international issues of common interest. The two sides stressed the importance of the visit paid by his highness the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah to the People's Republic of Bulgaria. They noted with satisfaction the continuous development of bilateral relations, and underlined their continuing efforts to expand these relations in various areas of cooperation.

They also reviewed the growth of their economic relations, noting with satisfaction the continuing development of cooperation in the economic and trade fields. They also noted that the development of the Kuwaiti and Bulgarian economies provides the possibility for increasing, strengthening and diversifying cooperation between the two countries for mutual benefit.

The two sides expressed their desire and readiness to increase cooperation in agriculture, food industry, health, tourism, transportation and communications and basic infrastructure, and also in the financial and trade sectors.

The two sides discussed the possibilities of mutual financing and realization of projects in the aforementioned fields. The two sides agreed to seek ways to strengthen and develop their economic and trade cooperation.

During this visit, the following agreements were signed: an agreement on maritime mercantile shipping; an agreement on tourism; an agreement on economic, industrial and technical cooperation; a cultural agreement; an agreement on the equivalence of diplomas.

The two sides voiced their deep concern over the deterioration of the international situation. They stressed the need to continue all efforts to reinforce peace and security in the world, to lessen international tension, to stop the arms race, especially in the field of nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction. They also stressed the need to eliminate hotbeds of tension, colonialism and all forms of racial discrimination. They expressed their strong conviction that international relations must be based on mutual respect, noninterference in internal affairs, nonuse of force and respect for sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The two sides called for a constructive, sincere and serious dialogue between states in the fields of disarmament and fundamental international issues. In this respect, they stressed the importance of strengthening the UN role in resolving international problems. The two sides welcomed all efforts to strengthen and reinforce security and cooperation on the European Continent.

The two sides noted with great concern the deteriorating situation in the Middle East, resulting from Israel's continuing aggressive and expansionist policies against the Arab peoples and states, and its attempts to annex the occupied Arab territories. They strongly condemned the recent Israeli decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights, which constitutes a blatant violation of international law and a grave threat to security and peace in the Middle East and the entire world.

They reaffirmed that a just and lasting settlement of the Middle East problem can be achieved only on the basis of the realization of the national, firm rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination and setting up its own independent state on its land, and of securing a total Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab lands occupied in 1967.

The two sides also stressed in this respect their continuing support for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the need for its participation in all efforts to find a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East.

The Kuwaiti side expressed its appreciation for the stand of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in support of Arab causes. In this respect, the two sides strongly condemned aggressive Israeli actions against Lebanon, Israel's continuous interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, the continuance of its savage aggression against the innocent population and its violation of Lebanon's territorial integrity.

They stressed the need to support all efforts to achieve peace and stability in Lebanon, and to preserve its security and sovereignty and independence, its territorial integrity and unity under its legitimate authority.

The two sides stressed that preserving security and peace in the Gulf region is the responsibility of its states alone, without any foreign interference. The two sides also expressed their deep concern about the continuing armed conflict between Iraq and Iran. They expressed their hope that a peaceful solution to this problem is reached. The two sides also stressed the need for a rapid implementation of the UN declaration that the Indian Ocean should be made a zone of peace.

While reviewing the international economic situation, the two sides stressed the importance of improving development in the developing countries, and expressed the need for greater efforts to establish a new international economic order based on justice, democracy and equality, and to guarantee the sovereignty of all states over their respective natural resources.

The two sides expressed their great appreciation of the results of the visit to Kuwait by His Excellency the Chairman of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Mr Todor Zhivkov.

They also expressed their confidence that this visit will contribute to the development and strengthening of the relations of friendship and cooperation, for the benefit of both countries.

His excellency the Bulgarian president expressed his great appreciation to the Kuwaiti people and their leaders for the warm welcome accorded to him. He extended an invitation to his highness the amir of Kuwait to pay an official visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and appreciation.

SAUDI ARABIA

PRESIDENT OF NIGER MAKES OFFICIAL VISIT

Arrives 14 Mar

LD141328 Riyadh SPA in English 1225 GMT 14 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 14 Mar (SPA) -- President Seyni (Hussain) Kountche of Niger arrived here today from Jidda in the framework of his official visit to the kingdom.

He was welcomed at the airport by HM King Khalid, Prince 'Abdallah, the second deputy premier and commander of national guard, Prince Sattam ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the deputy governor of Riyadh region. In an arrival statement, President Kountche described the relations between Niger and the kingdom as "exemplary and firm." He said the two countries' viewpoints are identical on many issues.

Commenting on his visit, the Niger president said it will concentrate on discussing a number of Islamic, Arab and African issues and means of consolidating bilateral relations between the two countries. "The visit will also review the Afro-Arab cooperation," he added.

Earlier today in Jidda, President Kountche held talks with Dr. Ahmed Mohammed 'Ali, president of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and reviewed with him the projects financed by the bank in Niger. He expressed his concern over the construction of a road across the desert linking Niger, Algeria and Nigeria. President Kountche said the feasibility studies of the project were partly financed by IDB. He expressed his appreciation in his country and hailed the existing close cooperation between IDB and Niger.

President Kountche arrived in Jidda yesterday on a three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia.

Talks With King Khalid

LD151108 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1020 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 15 Mar (SPA) -- Official Saudi-Niger talks began this morning chaired by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Niger President Col Seyni Kountche, who is currently visiting the kingdom.

The talks were held at the palace of conferences, in Riyadh. Attending on the Saudi side were His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy; His Excellency Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Al ash-Shaykh, minister of agriculture and water escort; Shayky Rashad Nawaylati, Saudi ambassador to Niger; and Ambassador 'Abbas Ghazzawi, director of the African and Asian desks at the Foreign Ministry.

On the Niger side the talks were attended by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Daouda Diallo, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Lt Col Abdou Mallam Moussa, Planning Minister Brah Mamane and Niger Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Salifou Soumaila.

The talks dealt with ways of strengthening and consolidating bilateral relations, developments in the Middle East and other issues of mutual concern, particularly Islamic solidarity, Afro-Arab cooperation and the current situation in west Africa.

Departs 16 Mar

LD160954 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0830 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Al-Madinah, 16 Mar (SPA) -- Niger President Seyni Kountche and his accompanying delegation left Al-Madinah for home this morning at the end of a 3-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

During the visit President Kountche had talks with his majesty the king and his royal highness the crown prince on bilateral relations and Arab and African issues of mutual interest.

UAE

PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED ON FRENCH MIDEAST POLICY

GF121900 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 12 Mar 82

[Interview granted to Paris LE MONDE's Eric Rouleau by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan in Abu Dhabi -- no date given]

[Text] Question: What is Your Highness' opinion on French President Mitterrand's visit to Israel?

Answer: In fact, if through his visit, President Mitterrand had been able to ask for a just and comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, no one would have criticized him or been angry with him.

It is true that during this visit President Mitterrand called upon the occupied territories to devise some principles to help achieve this. But, at the same time, he disregarded or ignored several other elements. This is contradictory for a person who takes the initiative to mediate between two conflicting parties and who claims to be friendly toward both of these parties. He should hold fast to fairness. As I have said, President Mitterrand called for some just proposals during his visit but ignored many other issues. This means that the principles he called for did not fulfill the framework of justice.

We in the Arab world, friends of France, do not criticize the visit itself because every state is free to pursue its foreign policies. However, we criticize a friend from a friendly state and a leader such as President Mitterrand for not stating things fairly during his visit. When we ask a friend to be fair we don't mean to ask him to take sides, but to commit himself frankly to the principles of justice without fear of censure. If he does so he will not care about those who are angered by a just stand. The one who wants to mediate between two quarreling parties cannot but hold fast to the reins of justice.

We are not annoyed because President Mitterrand is a friend of both the Arabs and Israel. But friendship does not mean injustice. We cannot say that France has a balanced policy in the Middle East if it has ignored fixed facts.

We had hoped that the French president -- who we had hoped was the Arab world's friend -- and that France -- which has a psecial status in the Arab world -- would hold fast to the just and legitimate demands in this conflict. If we had done this during this visit, his action would have gone down in history because commitment to justice without siding with a friend or against an enemy is considered miraculous.

Question: When President Mitterrand visited Israel he stressed the necessity of establishing a Palestinian state and holding negotiations between Israel and the PLO. Which aspects does Your Highness think President Mitterrand neglected?

Answer: There is no doubt that President Mitterrand called for some elements of justice, a must for President Mitterrand and anyone in his position, particularly when he called for the establishment of the Palestinian state and for negotiations between Israel and the PLO. However, President Mitterrand did not call for granting all the Palestinians -- both inside and outside of the occupied territories -- their rights to return to their lands and their rights to self-determination. Neither did he recognize the PLO as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people. He forgot that the Palestinians deserve to be given their full rights and deserve to be recognized.

Concerning his call for the two sides to recognize each other, this is President Mitterrand's duty. But the more important duty is to respect those usurped, sad and banished people who lost their lands, homes and belongings, and to help them regain their rights because this is inevitable.

Why did President Mitterrand not tell Israel to halt its overt and continuing aggression against the Arab people in Lebanon and the Golan and to stop its expansionist and settling policies at the expense of the Arab states? President Mitterrand could say that he came to the occupied territory in order to speak the truth and that as a friend of both sides he wanted to be sincere with them and not say something and ignore other things.

Question: Your Highness, do you share the opinion that Mitterrand is biased toward Israel?

Answer: No. I don't say he is biased. I only say he did not exploit the visit to denounce the continuing Israeli aggression being carried out through the annexation of the Golan, the aggressions against Lebanon, the usurping of Palestinian rights and the establishment of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza by Jewish immigrants from the USSR, the United States and elsewhere. This happens in the lands of the Arab citizens who are banished from their homes and lands every day.

President Mitterrand ought to have denounced this and told the Israelis that he did not come to mediate but came as a friend to say to them: I give you my opinion so you can live happily with your neighbors because you are our friends and the Arabs are also our friends, and if there are among you those who will be angry, this is my advice to you, and even if it does not please you, I have not come to deceive any of you.

All this is President Mitterrand's duty and he was supposed to do it. It was not expected that a president like Mitterrand would say things and abstain from mentioning other things or from placing them in their appropriate framework and true balance. President Mitterrand should have said to the Israelis: Why are you doing all this? Why are you not content with what you have done and why are you doing more and more of it? And how can you claim that you seek reconciliation and peace while you continue to invade and attack?

You men of the press, did you hear the French president denounce these actions and Israeli invasions and raids against Lebanon? Why didn't he denounce them?

Question: If France continues to pursue this policy that may not please you, will this influence relations between France and the Arab world?

Answer: Of course, of course it will influence French relations with the Arab world if France follows a biased policy. It is not easy for us to lose a friend. On the contrary, it is a pleasure for us to win a friend. I speak with utmost sincerity and honesty and express what is in my heart and mind when I say that France is dear to us and is a friend. It is not easy for us to lose France or for France to lose the Arab world. I said that frankly to Minister Claude Cheysson, who visited us a short while ago. I mentioned to him that there are integrated interests between Europe, the United States and the Arab world and that if the United States is relatively distant from us, Europe is closely linked with the Arab world. Thus, we hope that every European state will take into consideration the balance of loss and gain and take into account its interests in the Arab world before adopting a particular policy on the Middle East. We believe that both Europe and the United States need the Arabs as much as the Arabs need them.

Questions: Are there certain steps which you will take on this policy?

Answer: There is no doubt that the Arab world will take the necessary steps if France were to adopt a policy that would undermine the Arab right. If someone undermines the right of your brother, you cannot but adopt a stand on him in support of your brother. If France were to follow a policy that is biased toward Israel and unjust to Arab rights, we would then transfer our relations with it to the states which pursue a policy of friendship and nonalignment. At that moment we would prefer to deal with a state that has more favorable stands and that is free from guilt.

Question: Will the Arabs adopt measures against the United States too, and why don't you withdraw your assets from it?

Answer: There is no doubt that a group of interests links the Arab world with the United States. These interests are far greater than those which link us and Europe, both in the investment and commercial sectors. However, so far, the United States has been making promises and saying that it pursues a fair policy toward the Arabs. They ask us to be patient and follow the step-by-step policy. But if the United States continues to follow an unfair policy toward the Arabs, we are free to handle our investments and money as we see fit.

Question: France also makes promises. Why can't you have the same confidence in France's promises?

Answer: We criticize U.S. policy more severely than we criticize French policy because the United States has a bigger role in the Arab-Israeli conflict. We criticized the United States and are still directing our criticism toward it. However, France did have a special status in the Arab world and we used to rely on it to play a distinct role within the European group in the achievement of peace and justice and to balance the U.S. policy in the region. This led to the development of distinguished relations between France and the Arab world. We have long been envied for these relations and France itself was also envied by many other states for this relationship. When we blame France we do so because of our profound anxiety that the unique status of France in the Arab world will be affected.

Question: Were the policies of Presidents Giscard d'Estaing or De Gaulle better?

Answer: The policy of the new Socialist government is undergoing a test. There is no doubt that the French people themselves will follow this policy closely and evaluate it before others.

Question: What would you ask if President Mitterrand were sitting here with you, and what tangible measures and steps in your opinion would he take to reach peace and a just settlement?

Answer: I would not ask him for more than I asked from Minister Cheysson.

Question: What things did Your Highness ask:

Answer: Why do you want me to repeat myself? I told you what I wanted at the beginning. I want him to dot the i's -- all the i's of justice -- without leaving a single i undotted. I want France to adopt a more frank and clearer stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict. It should denounce unequivocally the expansionist policy, the establishment of settlements in Arab territory, the banishment of the Arabs from their lands, Israel's threats to southern Lebanon, the supply of arms to Sa'd Haddad's forces, which use them to kill innocent Lebanese, and Israeli annexation of the Golan and the other Arab territories.

Question: Can France call for an international conference in which all parties including the PLO take part? I mean what would be the next step for Europe, or France to take jointly with Europe, in order to traverse this stage?

Answer: We don't expect Europe or France to side against Israel or enter a war against it. The least we expect is for them to denounce injustice wherever it comes from and to make these stands clear and definite, whether at international conferences or in clear political statements.

Question: Your Highness, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin said that the United Arab Emirates is not democratic and that it does not deserve to be visited by French Minister of External Affairs Claude Cheysson. What is your comment?

Answer: In fact, any statement made by such a sinister man as Begin, who has a history of terrorism and who is a leader and an example for unjust and inhumane policies, is not strange, especially when it comes from an entity where there are thousands of political prisoners and where the rights of an entire people are being usurped. A statement made by such a person in such an entity has no weight at all.

Had this statement come from a sensible politician anywhere else in the world, we would have asked him to come to the UAE to see for himself the democratic practices and the freedom enjoyed by its children, praise be to God. We would invite him to observe our concern for man and to see how his rights are preserved. We would have asked him to give us a picture of the practices that take place in his country in order to benefit from them and compare them with what we have. But I don't believe that anyone can consult Begin on freedom and respect of human rights.

Question: Is there a threat to Gulf security, and what is its source?

Answer: There is no threat so far and whoever thinks different, let him tell us where the threat is and also where it comes from.

Question: For instance from Iran?

Answer: Iran did not threaten us.

Question: Is Iran pressuring you in any way?

Answer: No, Iran is not pressuring us.

Question: I heard that the Iranians have asked for money to help the refugees in Iran because you are helping Iraq.

Answer: God forbid. No, this has not happened.

Question: Is Iran conspiring against the Gulf states, as in the case with Bahrain, for example?

Answer: An Iranian official has denied to us any involvement in a conspiracy against anyone in the Gulf.

Question: Does your highness believe this?

Answer: The Iranian Foreign Ministry under secretary has given this explanation and we must see evidence and proof to verify the charges. Anyhow, time will prove whether or not this is true.

Question: This means that you do not feel threatened by Iran?

Answer: I do not think we will even be threatened by a neighboring Muslim state. This, naturally, does not mean that we will not take all precautions to defend our state's sovereignty, stability and security. Of course, man has to prepare himself for all eventualities. There is a known proverb that says "days are pregnant with events" and no one can predict what good or evil each day will bring.

Question: What is your opinion of the Iraqi-Iranian war?

Answer: So far, we do not approve of this war; we hate it, condemn it and do not like fighting between two Muslim states.

Question: Why, then, have you aided one of the two parties?

Answer: We have not aided any party against the other. We only facilitated the purchase of medical and essential goods by the two countries via our ports. This led to an increase in prices in our country. We have not provided any party with money or arms; what we have done can be called a humane service.

Question: The international press reports that there is another threat being posed to you -- the Soviet threat. What is your view?

Answer: We do not believe that there is any threat to us except the Israeli threat.

Question: How does Israel threaten the UAE?

Answer: Cannot the state which threatens Lebanon threaten the UAE? Cannot that which threatens Palestine and renders its people homeless threaten the UAE? Cannot that which threatens Syria and Jordan threaten the UAE? The threat comes from Israel. Despite geographical distance, we are an indivisible part of one homeland; what threatens the peace of these fraternal countries, even though they are far away from us; threatens us at the same time.

Question: What is your view on Afghanistan?

Answer: We denounce aggression against Afghanistan and against any other country, whether this aggression comes from the Soviets, the United States, Britain or China. We denounce in principle aggression against people's rights and their countries. Anyone who has a conscience must denounce aggression.

Question: Is it possible that the Soviet presence in Afghanistan is an indication of Soviet attempts to enter the Gulf region?

Answer: This presence gives not only the Soviets, but also the Americans and every strong state, the chance to move forward from any direction.

Question: Is there any fear from the Soviets in particular? Is there any fear that they may attempt to enter other countries besides Afghanistan?

Answer: There is no fear; however, we denounce tyranny and aggression against people's rights. The only fear is from Israel. Israel is our enemy. Why do you want us to fear a country that has never raided us with its aircraft, never shelled us with its guns and never attacked us with its weapons? The Soviet Union has never done this. It is Israel that is committing aggression against us. If the Soviet Union has intervened in Afghanistan -- or as it is said, has committed an aggression against it -- we denounce that.

Question: Why don't you establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union?

Answer: We are a novice in international policy. We are a small country among countries. Besides, there are states much larger than us that have experience in international policy but have still not established relations with the Soviet Union.

PDRY

CREATION OF MILITARY CAMPS IN OMAN DENOUNCED

EA152030 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Mar 82

[By Jafar Aydarus: "Report and Comment"]

[Text] Muscat radio reports that two camps have been opened in the southern region, Dhufar. They are described as security camps to camouflage their aggressive military nature. However, this indicates the continuation of the armed revolution in this region led by the PFLO. The opening of these camps, which Muscat radio described as security camps, gives the lie to the repeated declarations of the Muscat regime that the revolution has been (?destroyed) in this region and that stability prevails. If that were true and the regime now enjoys the support of the region and the Omani masses, then why the need to open those two camps?

We detect not only an implicit admission on the part of the Muscat regime about the continuation of the armed revolution led by the PFLO in the region, but also the extent of the Muscat regime's attempt to conceal the imperialist-reactionary scheme aimed at transforming the region into an arsenal for the protection of the puppet regime, plotting and mounting aggression against our country, Democratic Yemen, exercising interference in the internal affairs of the peoples of the region and imposing domination and hegemony on them.

The continuation of the revolution and of the huge imperialist-reactionary presence in Oman places the Muscat regime in a dilemma. These strong contradictions do not help it conceal the reality of the progress of the revolution. The increase in the number of camps, regardless of their description, in the Dhufar region cannot be explained outside the framework of that deep anxiety which seized the Muscat regime as a result of the escalation of the armed struggle of the Oman revolution in the Dhufar region.

Our position in Democratic Yemen toward these grave developments close to our borders makes it imperative that we put our brothers in the region face to face with these facts which confirm that the Oman revolution is a political and historical reality in this region. The responsibility for this cannot be placed anywhere but on the Muscat regime.

We also want to confront our brothers with the increasing danger represented by the Qabus regime against our people in the region by opening Omani territory to an imperialist military presence and activities aimed against all the efforts and hopes of our peoples for cooperation and stability.

We stress once again that security, cooperation and stability in our region have become more than ever interlinked with the just demands of the Omani people for the liquidation of the imperialist military presence in their territory and respect for their national sovereignty and democratic rights.

Furthermore, security, stability and cooperation in our region have also become more than ever interlinked, with the stress on good neighborliness, noninterference in internal affairs and keeping our region secure from all forms of hostile imperialist presence and influence.

PLANNING MINISTER LEAVES FOR MOSCOW, GDR

EA132304 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Mar 82

[Text] The work of the third session of the joint Soviet-Yemeni economic committee will begin in Moscow [word indistinct] this month. It will discuss a number of issues aimed at expanding economic cooperation between the two countries. This was stated by Brother Dr Faraj ibn Ghanim, minister of planning, shortly before leaving Aden at dawn today for the USSR and the GDR.

In a statement to the Aden news agency, the brother minister said the session of the economic committee will evaluate the achievements under the economic agreement signed between the two countries and reexamine the activities of the subcommittees for economic cooperation in various sectors. He added that he will also hold meetings in Moscow with officials in the [word indistinct] committee for economic relations between the PDRY and the USSR.

The brother minister of planning pointed out that during his visit to the GDR he will attend the Leipzig international fair to be held there beginning 20 March and will hold discussions with German officials on developing the relations of economic and technical cooperation between the two friendly countries.

YAR

PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON ARAB TOUR, YEMEN UNITY

LD151102 Kuwait KUNA in English 1020 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Mar (KUNA) -- President of North Yemen 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih said in a press statement published here Monday that he made an expanded Arab tour lately aimed at unifying the Arab ranks and at serving the interests and causes of the Arab nation including the Palestinian problem.

Salih visited the Gulf Cooperation Council states, which included Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman, Iraq and Jordan.

The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' quoted Salih as saying that the unity of South and North Yemen during the last three years was "transfered from the stage of slogans and hopes to the stage of actual implementation."

He added that a number of joint establishments between the two Yemens have been established especially in the fields of transportation, tourism and the drawing up of a constitution for unified Yemen. Work on the constitution went on for ten years by the joint constitutional committee.

CONCLUDING REPORTAGE ON TEL AVIV MEETING

'Ali Meets Begin

NC161333 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met this morning with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Following the meeting, 'Ali said that he conveyed a message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to Menahem Begin. He added that his discussions with the Israeli prime minister covered several issues of common interest to both sides including the question of autonomy to which the two sides have agreed to give a new momentum in the near future.

'Ali further said that his discussions with Begin dealt also with bilateral relations.

Following this, 'Ali went to the Israeli Foreign Ministry's headquarters where the meetings of the normalization committee are being held.

'Ali Meets Shamir, Burg

NC162005 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1820 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Tel Aviv, 16 Mar (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali reviewed bilateral relations in every respect in his meeting today with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

In the meeting, which was attended by Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, the statements made on normalization and autonomy were reviewed, concluding the talks which took place in Cairo.

In another meeting between Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Israeli Minister of Interior and head of the Israeli side to the autonomy negotiation Yosef Burg, attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, the autonomy talks and the concept of holding a tripartite meeting at a ministerial level among Egypt, the United States, and Israel to discuss the problem of Palestinian autonomy were reviewed.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali announced methods pushing the autonomy negotiations in the coming period was discussed. He referred to the necessity of consulting with the United States in this regard since it is a second partner.

Conference Concludes

NC161601 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1437 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Tel Aviv, 16 Mar (MENA) -- At its meeting today, the joint Israeli-Egyptian supreme committee concerned with the handover of the remaining part of Sinai discussed some aspects related to the arrangements for completing the withdrawal on 25 April as scheduled.

Egyptian delegation spokesman Ambassador Ra'uf Ghunaym said that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali headed the Egyptian side and Defense Minister Ar'iel Sharon led the Israeli side to the meeting during which it was agreed to form a subcommittee to implement what has been agreed upon regarding Rafah, fix the borders in accordance with the 1906 agreement without causing any harm to any Egyptian or Palestinian citizens, discuss the process of transferring the Palestinian citizens in Canada Camp in Egyptian Rafah to Palestinian Rafah and prepare the technical teams necessary for this.

Ambassador Ghunaym added that during the 1 and 1/2 hour meeting, some results of the meetings of the technical committees concerned with the withdrawal were reviewed and that the topics raised have been referred to the subcommittees which will convene in the next few days.

They include the tourism committee which will convene in Aswan on 30 March, the police and administration committee which will convene in Cairo on 31 March to coordinate the border and passage through them and the operations and the communications comittee, which is currently in session in Cairo.

Ghunaym added: The discussions also dealt with measures pertaining to the opening of an Egyptian Consulate in Elat and an Israeli consulate in Sharm ash-Shakh on 25 April. The current measures pertaining to Egypt's takeover of the installations in south Sinai were reviewed. It was agreed to increase the number of the Egyptian experts in south Sinai to cover the needs of the technical departments there. Egypt, he pointed out, has sent shipments of food and urgent aid to the inhabitants of Sinai.

The joint Israeli-Egyptian supreme committee will hold another meeting tomorrow morning. A statement will be issued after the meeting on the results of the committee's activities. 'Ali and Sharon will then hold a press conference to discuss the results of ['Ali's] visit. 'Ali and the delegation accompanying will afterwards leave Israel for Cairo.

The Egyptian side to the joint supreme committee includes Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Tahir Shash, Rear Admiral Muhsin Hamdi, Ambassador Fawzi al-Abrashi, Ambassador 'Ismat Rida and Ambassador Ra'uf Ghynaym.

MUBARAK TO DELIVER 'MAJOR' SPEECH 27 APR

NC162236 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has set 27 April as the date for delivering his major speech, which he will address to the people from the People's Assembly, after Israel's withdrawal from the remaining part of Sinai on 25 April.

It is known that President Mubarak will attend a ceremonial celebration in Rafah in which he will raise the Egyptian flag on the liberated part of Sinai.

AS-SIYASAH INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT MUBARAK

GF161552 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 15 Mar 82 pp 12, 13

[Interview granted by President Husni Mubarak to AS-SIYASAH Editor in Chief Ahmad al-Jarallah at Mubarak's home in Cairo -- date not given]

[Text] I asked the Egyptian president: Will you visit Jerusalem?

The president: The real question is who is the cause of all this fuss and that is its purpose? In Israel they said if Husni Mubarak is going to visit Israel without visiting Jerusalem it would be better if he did not come. Thus for us the matter became one of principle.

I said to the president that it is contrary to protocol for a state to impose on a visiting head of state the places he will visit and his itinerary. Furthermore, a visit to Jerusalem was not a condition of the Camp David accords so there should be not such a hue and cry in political amd media circles. I added that the status of the city of Jerusalem was from the beginning a matter of dispute between Egypt and Israel. They say that if As-Sadat were alive such a thing would not have happened -- although if As-Sadat were alive he would have not visited Jerusalem, for his earlier visit to the city had a religious signifcance. In my conversation with President Mubarak, I said that the pope's view on the matter is well-known. He says Jerusalem is too important to be the capital of a particular state for it has a religious status that is common to all religions.

The president said: This is not the heart of the matter. The issue for us is one of principle and protocol. We should not link the visit or its lack thereof with unjustifiable fears. That is to say, Israel should understand that there is diplomatic representation between us and Israel, and if the visit to Israel does not take place today, it will take place at another time.

Question: Mr President, do you not believe that if the visit does not take place this may have an effect on the date of Israel's withdrawal from Sinai or that there may be repercussions on relations between Egypt and Israel?

Answer: In my view no, because in Israel they respect their signatures. Yes, they are difficult during talks, but when they agree with us on something they respect the agreement. I know the Israeli prime minister is anxious that the Camp David accords are implemented. Hence they will withdraw. Israel's fear was that we would not implement the Camp David accords. At the time they asked the United States to guarantee the accords' implementation. I do not want to repeat that for us the peace process is a decision that has been made and is being followed. Our people in Egypt want to concentrate on development. Therefore, the decision to postpone the visit is not designed by us to affect the peace march. We do not mean to thwart agreements which we have signed and respected. I believe that Israel in turn respects its signature. The matter for us is one of principle to which we are entitled to adhere at present.

Question: Mr President, let me ask you a question that is full of pessimism. Let us assume Israel will not withdraw as a result of all this uproar.

Answer: Such a decision would have enormous international repercussions which Israel would not venture to experience. Israel and Egypt have sought peace, and one cannot violate agreements that will bring about regional and international repercussions. We and Israel have experienced the climate of international furor, both for us and against us. In such a climate Israel would not risk everything for the sake of an issue which if it does not take place at present it will take place in the future.

Question: Mr President, you are sure the withdrawal will take place?

Amswer: Yes, and we shall celebrate the return of Egyptian territory together. Our people have experienced the woes of war and now they bid them farewell. We are now living in the age of development, for the future brings frightening figures. Unless we begin now to concentrate on tackling such issues, Egypt's political leadership will be blamed by the people, and I do not want that.

Question: Mr President, they say you are a mysterious man. This was said by pro-Israeli American papers. Such descriptions are publicized in Israel as well. Are you really a mysterious man?

Answer: Mysterious? Why? Yes, I do differ from some other politicians. Also the conditions of my work in my country are different from conditions in other countries. However, I do not hesitate in discussing the issues that require confrontation. My view of such issues is always clear. I do not opt for a particular diplomatic school to implement what I want. My only diplomatic school is our people's simplicity and innocence. As for grappling with issues that have nothing to do with us, I leave this to those who like political bragging for a reason or without a reason. For me, tackling issues is not merely a reaction; it requires prudence and calmness. Therefore, for a man who wants to sincerely and truly live his country's causes, I am not mysterious. I read everything that is being said. However, it suffices that I have given time to what is being said and there is no need to concern myself with replying to all that is being said. It suffices that for Egypt I am not a mysterious man. Whoever wants to work sincerely and diligently will find a place with me. Anyone else will be taken to task whoever he may be.

Question: Now that the tension has eased for Egypt, how do you assess relations between your country and our Arab world?

Answer: There have been no contacts. There are those who believe the time is ripe for the return of relations between Egypt and the other Arab countries. I say that we are brothers, and although we may differ now, we are closer to one another than [if linked by] an umbilical cord. I have said to Israeli officials who visited me that Egypt maintains diplomatic relations with Israel, but this does not mean it has closed the door to the Arab world. I said to them: I have basic ties with the Arab world. Egypt is ultimately an Arab country that shares with the Arab nation common hopes and agonies. I said to them: We are accustomed to such a climate. We separate for a time but we return to each other. Egypt's return to the Arab world is natural. Why should Israel be an obstacle?

They say that they do not want war and that we were the first to work with them for peace. Perhaps the Security Council resolution, to which most of the Arab countries have given their consent, is a resolution that will bring about the implementation of a peace that will in one way or another lead to recognition of all the area countries, and Egypt may achieve what the Arab world aimed to achieve: A comprehensive and just peace. Egypt is an Arab country and will one day return to its Arab world. We may play an important role in the process of establishing the comprehensive and just peace that has been agreed upon.

Question: Mr President, there are those who believe the time is appropriate to invite Egypt to the forthcoming summit conference, particularly as it will follow the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

Answer: Egypt's return to the Arab world is inevitable. Whatever happened, the Arab world cannot do without Egypt just as Egypt cannot do without the Arab world. I have emphasized this to foreign quarters, including Israel. However, the peace decision has become incorporated in Egypt's constitution. Egypt belongs to everyone, and the Arab world is asked to understand Egypt's circumstances and conditions.

Question: Mr President, how do you view the Iraqi-Iranian war?

Answer: It is a war of attrition that is being fought at the expense of development projects in both countries. The war is still going on and I hope that the good offices that are being offered will succeed in stopping it. What is painful in this war is that some Arab countries should take the anti-Iraqi side. Of course, we want the war to end because it is a war that will not serve the interests of Iraq or Iran. The only beneficiary is the arms merchant, and the only loss is Iraqi and Iranian blood -- that is, Muslim blood. However, our sympathies are with Iraq and whatever we can do we shall not hesitate in doing. We are glad Iraq has repeated its call for acceptance of peace. Iran should show some kind of positive response to this so as to put an end to bloodshed among Muslims. It is a war of attrition and we hope it will end. We in Egypt have experienced the woes of war and know that the blood that is being shed is dear, but we can do nothing but wait and hope.

Question: Mr President, we return to the tension between Egypt and some Arab countries so that I can ask this question: Tension between Egypt and the Soviet Union eased following As-Sadat's assassination. Indeed, there are those who say Husni Mubarak has begun to court the Soviet leadership.

Answer: One of Husni Mubarak's weaknesses is that he does not know and does not want courting. There was a lot of fuss when some Soviet experts arrived in Egypt, although the matter does not warrant such a fuss. The experts have come to Egypt to supervise the equipment of factories in accordance with contracts concluded with Russian some time ago. Nevertheless, I say that our present relationship with the United States does not mean any change in the concept of holding independent views, just as it is a convergence of common and equal interests. What we have strived for is to find such an equitable relationship, whether with the Soviet Union or with the United States. The only target of our courtship is respect for national sovereignty.

Question: Mr President, nonetheless, reports say you will turn a blind eye to an expected U.S. attack on Libya.

Answer: Libya has heightened its military readiness, including the readiness of its forces on the border with Egypt. I say that Egypt will not be an arena or springboard for any aggression against Libya. In the first place, we reject war. We have proclaimed peace with Israel. How can we allow our airspace or territory to be used for an attack against an Arab country? All I want to say is may God be kind to the Arab world. Why all this fragmentation? Bilateral relations are tense everywhere in our Arab world: All this money wasted on border wars, all these unjustifiable differences!

Question: Mr President, I repeat the question: Now that As-Sadat has been assassinated, do you believe you are the one to promote the return of relations between Egypt and the Arab world? Has any contact of any kind taken place?

Answer: No contact has taken place with anyone, particularly with Saudi Arabia. We do not want to embarrass anybody. Anyone who is satisfied with what we are doing is welcome. We do not force anybody to do what we are doing. Let the Arab world treat Egypt as a foreign country whose policy differs from the policy prevailing in the Arab world. Some people want a dialogue with Israel through the United States or the Soviet Union. Why should this not take place through Egypt? We understand our Arab causes and understand what we want more than others. Let the Arab world treat us as a foreign country that wants to bring about a comprehensive peace in a region for which peace is indispensable. We do not want to go into detail. However, let us ask ourselves the question: Does the Arab world have an enviable civilization? Why do we not pay close attention to development, progress and construction? Time resolves most of the world's problems.

Question: Mr President, will you carry out the death penalty against those who assassinated your predecessor, As-Sadat?

Answer: Since the beginning of the trial, I have not intervened in any way. I even preferred not to follow it closely. I left everything to justice and the law to do what is just. I was informed of the verdicts 30 minutes after they were issued. Before then I did not follow the trial or intervene. God knows this, the law has judged and justice was decided on the case. I had no hand in what was decided except within the law's decision and rituals.

Question: Mr President, my information indicates that they will appeal. Will you accept this?

Answer: I told you that I have left everything to the law. Justice alone will decide.

Question: Mr President, do you believe you can avoid an atmosphere of paralysis?

Answer: I have been using my ears. When there is a certain decision, I listen to various views and various parties in order to make sound decisions. This country needs speedy work. The figures for the future awe me. I want our people to compete with time. Whoever works hard will be my partner in working for Egypt's welfare. Otherwise, I am not fit to receive associates and those who are unemployed. Anyone who wants to improve and construct is welcome.

Question: Mr President, do you not believe that by talking about bribes and administrative corruption you are exposing the Egyptian people to some strange developments?

Answer: In a society of such low income as Egyptian society, any talk about such violations takes on certain dimensions. Nevertheless, what has been said and what is being said about administrative corruption and bribes is exaggerated and flourishes in a poor society. Yet is it relatively less than what can be found in other societies. This exaggeration should not divert the administration and Egyptian society from carrying out their duty. There have been mistakes which have been corrected, and that is all. It is strange for such talk to take on such importance in the Arab and the international press, as if there were no administrative corruption except in Egypt. What I decide here is that administrative corruption will not affect the open door policy and economic resolutions, including the encouragement of Arab and foreign investment to work. At the same time, I emphasize that I will not be merciful with anyone who intentionally does wrong.

Question: Some people have construed the return of the entry visa for the sons of the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula to have non-Arab dimensions.

Answer: This decision was made for equal treatment and for security reasons. But my instructions are that Arab nationals should be received cordially in Egypt. I promise you that I will abolish the entry visa, particularly for the GCC countries. I even say that part of our goal is to allow the possession of agricultural land by specialized Arab companies, such as GCC companies. We will also encourage internal investment, particularly regarding the improvement of Egypt's coasts. Of course, we are interested in encouraging investment in the produtive domains. Egypt is full of opportunities. I will personally follow up any obstacles that may arise in the way of Arab investment in Egypt. What is important is that you decide.

PRESIDENT MUBARAK MEETS CAPITAL AREA NDP GROUP

NC161649 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Following a 4-hour meeting today between President Husni Mubarak and members of the parliamentary body of the National Democratic Party [NDP] in Cairo and Al-Jizah Governorates, Deputy Prime Minister for the Affairs of the People's Assembly and Consultative Council Fikri Makram 'Ubayd said that the president initiated the dialogue and that issues of public interest such as the agricultural policy, which must receive the special attention of all citizens in both the city and the village, and the direction of consumption and importation were discussed at the meeting. The question of increasing production was also raised.

'Ubayd added that the president stressed the need to increase productivity now, as this is the year of increasing production. The members focused on the housing problem and the difficulties it is causing to citizens. The housing minister reassured the members saying: This problem is on its way to a solution. This might take some time, but it will be a short time. The minister expressed his hope that this problem will be solved in a few years in a way that would satisfy all the citizens.

'Ubayd also said the members spoke about foreign policy and the president explained that our foreign policy is based on two firm principles: The first is our adherence to the peace process and the second is our adherence to our national dignity.

The deputy prime minister further said that the members then spoke about the NDP and that the president announced that all the party's organizations will be completed this month, God willing.

The governors of Cairo and Al-Jizah spoke about hygenic drainage plans costing hundreds of millions of pounds saying that huge sums amounting to approximately 400 million pounds in foreign loans have been allocated for these plans and that other sums are being negotiated.

'Ubayd said that dozens of proposals were presented at the meeting and that they centered on increasing production because all our housing, economic and social problems can be solved by increasing production. The proposals also suggested methods of tackling administrative complications facing citizens trying to obtain various licenses and permits for ordinary work. The governor of Cairo explained that his governorate gives a great deal of attention to these issues.

Concluding his statement, 'Ubayd said the next meeting will be held on 23 March and that it will involve some Lower Egypt governorates.

More on Meeting

NC161817 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1635 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) -- An important dialogue, lasting more than 4 hours, took place today between President Husni Mubarak and the members of the National Democratic Party's parliamentary body in the Cairo and Al-Jizah Governorates. During this meeting president mubarak replied to the questions of the members on various domestic issues.

President Mubarak began the meeting by expressing the hope that such meetings would be held more often. He said that although the burden is great, these meetings are important.

The president then began replying to the questions posed by the members. Asked about the subject of party cadres, the president said: By the end of this month we shall embark on this matter.

Regarding Egypt's relations with foreign countries, President Mubarak pointed out that Egypt deals with states on an equal basis not because of its size.

Regarding the relations with Israel, President Mubarak pointed out that [implementation of] the Egyptian-Israeli treaty is proceeding normally, and so is the peace process. Egypt will receive the remaining part of Sinai on 25 April.

President Mubarak expressed his belief that some of the problems existing between the two sides will not affect the peace process. He said: The question of my visit to Israel has nothing to do with this subject, because my visit is not included in the treaty.

Regarding the future Egypt conference, President Mubarak pointed out that this conference will discuss everything and will explain many concepts.

He said: We need to clarify the concepts about democracy and whether we want freedom like that in the United States. The president affirmed the importance of understanding the kind of democracy that is suitable for us. President Mubarak asked: Am I like the American people, or the British people or the French people? He said: If we are like them, there is no fear.

He added: We are a country which has a measure of democracy. As it is said, democracy is a garment, and this garment must fit the person.

He said: The task of the future Egypt conference will be to discuss what is most suitable for us.

Regarding the economic conference, President Mubarak pointed out that the conference prepared a comprehensive report. He said: We are planning to form committees, and each committee will discuss a specific subject. With the participation of the parties, these committees will discuss these subjects in more details. All this will have to be completed by the end of this year.

Some members raised the possibility of convening a conference to discuss the question of increasing agricultural production in Egypt. President Mubarak pointed out that he has already discussed agricultural policy with the agriculture minister, particularly the need to increase production. The president said that the party could convene an agricultural conference in which the government officials would participate. President Mubarak explained that the only solution to the agricultural problem is to cultivate the desert saying: Egypt has received offers for this purpose.

Regarding Egypt's relations with Sudan, President Mubarak invited the Arab states to implement economic projects in Sudan so as to help it solve its economic problems. President Mubarak referred to the importance of Sudan to Egypt and the Arab world saying: Sudan is the southern strategic limit of Egypt and the western limit of Saudi Arabia.

Referring to what happened at the OAU conference in Addis Ababa, President Mubarak said: Egypt played a conciliatory role at the conference. He pointed out that Egypt's role is known -- safeguarding the OAU's unity.

A long discussion then took place about the question of production in Egypt and of solving the problems of the workers in production units. President Mubarak explained that the general principle is that the factory workers should take over most of the houses which are built in the industrial areas.

The president stressed that it was necessary to find a solution to the question of the buildings which have not been completed.

Concerning the public sector, President Mubarak stressed the need to develop it because it is the mainstay in Egypt.

Regarding investments, President Mubarak called for cutting short the road of the investor so as to save time and preclude the obstruction of the projects.

At the end of the meeting, President Mubarak affirmed that the magic wand to solve Egypt's economic problems is the Egyptian people's production, saying: Our economic position is well known and clear. Production is the only way to solve the economic problems.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES TURKEY'S ULUSU 17 MAR

JN170932 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Mar (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn received here this morning Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu and his delegation. During the meeting, which was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, the two sides discussed relations between the two friendly countries and ways of promoting them in various fields. The meeting was also attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary general and acting chief of the president's office. Ulusu and his delegation arrived in Baghdad the day before yesterday.

Banquet Held

JN161955 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], gave a dinner banquet this evening in honor of Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu and his delegation. The banquet was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; a number of RCC members; Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary general and acting chief of the president's office; and a number of ministers.

BILATERAL RELATIONS DISCUSSED WITH ALGERIANS

JN161437 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Mar (INA) -- The meeting of the Iraqi-Algerian joint committee which will discuss bilateral economic and technical relations opened in Baghdad today. The Iraqi side was led by Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud, and the Algerian side by Maj Brahim Brahimi, minister of hydraulics, land development and environment protection.

In a speech at the beginning of the talks, the Iraqi minister welcomed the fraternal Algerian delegation and expressed the hope that the meeting would result in achievements compatible with the strong ties binding the two fraternal countries. The minister added that in cooperating and coordinating with Arab states, Iraq acts on the basis of the concept that the Arab nation is one nation. The Iraqi minister explained the dimensions of the Iraqi-Iranian war, pointing out that the main aim behind this war was diverting Arab Iraq from the line of confrontation with the Zionist enemy and foiling Iraqi development plans.

In a speech in reply, the Algerian minister stressed that Iraqi-Algerian relations are a paragon to be emulated by other states and countries in the world. He expressed the hope that the results of the talks will be on a level commensurate with the Iraqi and Algerian people's aspirations for integration and unity. The minister said: Our fate is one and our enemy is one and the same. The Algerian people will never forget the Iraqi people's courageous support for the Algerian people during the period of national liberation.

In today's meeting, three committees were formed: the committee for trade cooperation, the committee for economic and technical cooperation and the committee for cultural and vocational cooperation with the aim of preparing the final resolutions and recommendations for the agreements which are to be signed tomorrow by both sides.

Ramadan Receives

JN161824 Baghdad Voice of the M es in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, today received Brahim Brahimi, Algerian minister of hydraulics, land development and environment protection and head of the Algerian side in the Iraqi-Algerian joint committee. Ramadan welcomed the Algerian guest pointing out that the meeting of the Iraqi-Algerian joint committee at this particular time is an earnest and important step toward developing relations between the two fraternal countries in all fields. He reaffirmed Iraq's declared and well-known position on the holy war against the Persian enemy, its readiness to solve the conflict through peaceful means and its cooperation with all the committees which are working to end the war provided that its rights to territories and waters are recognized. Ramadan stressed that the unified and consolidated Arab position is the means by which we can stop the offensive launched by the enemies of the Arab nation who are trying to encroach on its territories, waters, dignity and honor.

The Algerian minister said that he had been entrusted to convey President Chadli Bendjedid's greetings to President Saddam Husayn, and the Algerian Government and people's good wishes to the Iraqi leadership and people for progress and prosperity. The Algerian minister said that the repeated exchange of visits between officials in the two fraternal countries contribute in creating closer views and promoting and expanding the existing relations, and that the Iraqi-Algerian joint committee meeting in Baghdad indicates a genuine desire to expand and deepen cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Ramadan asked the Algerian minister to convey his greetings to the Algerian prime minister to convey his greetings to the Algerian prime minister and stressed the importance of meetings on various levels and in all fields for the promotion of cooperation in the service of the Arab nation's interests.

The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud, Iraqi minister of irrigation; (Ahmed al-B'eili), deputy head of the [word indistinct] side in the joint committee; and the Algerian ambassador in Baghdad.

RAMADAN SEES OFF YAR VOLUNTEERS TO FRONT

JN161924 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Mar (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, commander in chief of the Popular Army, today saw off a group of YAR volunteers to the front to fight against the Persian enemy. Ramadan pointed out to the Arab volunteers that their voluntary contribution to the battle and their presence in one trench to defend the Arab nation's sovereignty and dignity is the best formula for cohesion among the Arab people. He said that the volunteering of the YAR's Al-Muthanna forces is a new phase, a beginning of a great victory on the path of restoring Iraqi sovereignty over its territories and waters, and an expression of the unity of destiny among the Arab people. He added that Arab fighters from Yemen, Syria, Libya and Iraq and from all parts of the great Arab homeland are standing in one Arab trench in defense of the common fate and dignity.

Ramadan also said: The contribution of Arab volunteers will enhance the Iraqi people's pan-Arab spirit and will affirm the Arab nation's unity and genuine character. The enemies have been endeavoring to confine this war to Iraq in order to shatter the pan-Arab and genuine character of this battle.

Qasim Sallam, member of the Ba'th Party National Command, made a speech in which he stressed that Iraq's battle is the battle of every Arab believing in Arab unity and in an independent and free Arab existence. He said that Iraq's battle is no less important than the main battle to liberate Palestine from the Zionists.

BAGHDAD WARNS AGAINST KHOMEYNI'S 'FALSE' ISLAM

NC161338 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] How is it that Khomeyni -- who considers himself the most supreme of all jurisconsults and a theocrat, claims to be an imam and calls himself that too -- doesn't know that this is the special title of the 12 Shi'ite imams? Maybe he considers himself an imam on the basis of the views and opinions of the Sunnis who call a congregation leader imam.

But the Muslim people of Iran should know that the person who is called an imam and who has drawn Iran into calamity, poverty and a destructive war has not only made the false claim of being an imam, but also considers himself greater than the Shi'ite imams. Is it not true that each time his name is mentioned, the people send three praises to God but when the great prophet's name is mentioned they send only one praise?

Who dares today to stand in front of Khomeyni and tell him what crimes he has committed during these 2 years and how much innocent blood has been shed in instant and contrived courts at the hands of ignorant people like the Khalkhalis, Reyshahris, Hejazis and so on? Who dares tell him what other results the war with Iraq has had -- the bloodshed of youths of the two Muslim countries of Iran and Iraq, the destruction, the refugees and the weakening of the anti-Israel front? Has not the West been the main beneficiary in this war -- the same West against which you taught the people to chant slogans but into whose pockets you poured all of Iran's wealth by purchasing arms? What have you done during the past 3 years by purchasing arms? What have you done during the past 3 years other than make cemeteries flourish and destroy past prosperity?

But the greater danger for the Iranian people is that Khomeyni will die as did all the world's pharoahs and dictators but these propagandists and these disgraceful flatterers will make this despicable person a prophet like Babollah and Baha'ollah and a new religion will emerge from within Islam called the Ruhollahi sect. Who knows, Khomeyni may claim to be God himself before he dies and invalidate everything. But the people of Iran and true Islam will live and will be freed from the sorrow and affliction from which they are suffering.

We hope for the day that Iran will extend its hand in friendship and fraternity toward the people of the region and to the nations of the world, rid itself of this horrific nightmare and regain its position among the nations of the world and of the region.

KHOMEYNI REGIME CHARGED WITH 'DISTORTING FACTS'

NC161531 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Following the visit by the Islamic conference delegation, headed by Mr Ahmed Sekou Toure, the Khomeyni regime is extremely upset. To justify its stance, it has started distorting facts to veil its sly intentions against the Iranian people and armed forces by insisting on continuing the war with Iraq.

The Iranian people have now realized that the termination of the war with Iraq and the achievement of a peaceful, just and respectable solution is a complete necessity. The world of Islam feels the same.

It was on this basis that the Islamic conference delegation, which consists of leaders of Islamic countries, began efforts and shuttled between the two countries to advance its desire -- the happiness of Iran and Iraq and the prevention of unnecessary bloodshed. But Khomeyni, Khamene'i, Rafsanjani and the remainder of the band ruling Tehran are not interested in ending the war, and everyone is aware of why they feel this way.

Bascially Khomeyni's regime resorts to empty and baseless excuses for the war to continue because the regime's intention is to keep the Iranian Army involved in the war so that it cannot play its national role and so that it cannot stop the chaos, suppression and disintegration of the country's organizations brought upon Iran under the aegis of Khomeyni's regime and the bloodthirsty and ignorant clique of the regime. In addition, the Tehran regime uses the war conditions to crush opponents. On the pretext of war it wants to decimate opponents and partriotic parties, personalities and groups who want the freedom and independence of their country and liberation from the nightmare of terror, chaos, instigations, and the 3 years of disintegration that Iran has been experiencing.

Contrary to the desire and will of the people of Iran and the Iranian Armed Forces, Khomeyni's impostor regime continues the war, and in order to justify its anti-National and anti-Islamic stance, it resorts to the weapons of lies and hypocrisy.

Even though Iraq has guaranteed to the Islamic conference committee that it is prepared to withdraw from Iranian territory on the condition that the Iranian Government signs a new pact in which the borders of both countries are delineated, (?the just) rights of Iran and Iraq are guaranteed and relations between the two countries are based on mutual respect and nonintervention in each others' affairs -- despite this clear stance -- Khomeyni's regime insists on continuing the war [word indistinct]. Is this not clear proof that Iraq actually and sincerely wants a just and respectable peace and that the Tehran leaders do not want such a peace?

The subject of the visit by the POW's families was brought up by Iraq for the first time and it was the Iraqi Government which tendered constructive proposals toward the fulfillment of this humanitarian objective and invited the Iranian POW's families to come to Iraq, to visit their children and dear ones and to pay a pilgrimage to holy shrines. In addition, Iraq wants these visits to take place so that the Iranians can see close up the realities of the situation in Iraq and realize Iraq's true wish on the establishment of peace on the basis of justice between Iran and Iraq. Iraq wants these visits to take place so that the Iranians can realize the lies by Khamene'i and by the clique that has made the war a tool for its own domination and rule and to take the destiny of the Iranian people into their hands, especially when this clique has shed the blood of thousands of Iranian youths without reason, killed tens of thousands of others more, the objective of which is only to destroy the Iranian Army and whose only obsession is to continue domination, despotism and the crushing of opponents of despotism and the seekers of freedom and progress.

We leave the comparison of the situations in Iran and Iraq to the families of the Iranian POW's so that they can come and see Iraq and tell the Iranian people of the truths and realities.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 647

JN161 [illegible] Baghdad INA in Arabic 1638 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text Baghdad, 16 Mar (INA) -- During military operations during the past 24 hours the Persian enemy lost 22 men and 8 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 stockpile of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed. Three of the destroyed vehicles were carrying enemy soldiers. The communique, issued by the Armed Forces General Command today, said that the military operations took place in the sectors of Bostan, Dezful, Shush, Mimak, Sayf Sa'd, Nowsud, Ahvaz and Abadan. The Iraqi forces lost 16 martyrs and 1 vehicle was damaged.

The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 647 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With firmness based on principles, values and right, the brave soldiers of Iraq and the Arab nation are continuing their activities in the battlefield. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded, with various weapons, the enemy positions and concentrations in the Bostan area and killed 10 of the enemy and destroyed 1 vechicle.
2. In Dezful, our forward units destroyed three enemy vehicles, killing the enemy soldiers in them, and one stockpile of hardware.
3. Five killed and three vehicles and one gun destroyed in the Shush area.
4. Three killed in the Mimak area in front of our units in Sayf Sa'd.
5. Two killed and one vehicle destroyed in the Nowsud area.
6. Two killed in the Ahvaz area.
7. Two observation posts destroyed in the Abadan area.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amount to 22 killed; 8 vehicles destroyed 3 of which were carrying enemy soldiers; and 1 gun, 1 stockpile of hardware, and 2 observation posts destroyed.

8. Our sacrifices:
A. In personnel: 16 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one vehicle damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 March 1982.

KURDISH RADIO ATTACKS TURKISH REGIME U.S., NATO

JN151534 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Revolution in Bahdinani Kurdish 1515 GMT 14 Mar 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] When a leftwing revolutionary force in any country intensifies its struggle, the United States, through its agents in the armed forces, begins to act directly against this force and issues its orders to these agents to control the situation and assume power in that country so that they can put an end to this revolutionary upheaval. It goes without saying that the United States and NATO are deceiving the masses when they bring military regimes to power.

The fascist military rulers in Turkey assumed power with the backing and support of the United States and NATO after the revolutionary movement in Kurdistan and Turkey escalated its struggle, under the pretext that a military regime would restore democracy and parliamentary life to the country.

All the reactionary and fascist forces collaborate with the U.S. intelligence service and deal with it to impose military rule in the country so that they can wipe out revolutionary movements for liberation. The military regime in Turkey assumed power on this basis, believing that it could wipe out the Kurdish liberation movement in Turkey's Kurdistan. Proceeding from this premise, it began arresting revolutionaries and imprisoning Kurdish and Turkish revolutionaries, strugglers throughout Turkey and those who sympathize with the various revolutionary organizations.

Immediately after it assumed power, the military regime in Turkey began searching for revolutionaries in all the Turkish villages using helicopters and house raids. The regime also began attacking villagers under the pretext of searching for revolutionaries thus giving the soldiers the opportunity to plunder the houses of the citizens, torture them and attack them. Many died as a result of these tortures. The regime's soldiers also raped women in front of their husbands, fathers and brothers. Despite all these despicable practices, the revolutionaries will not be scared.

They have continued, and have escalated, their struggle. Our militant Kurdish people and the militant Turkish people will escalate their struggle against this fascist military regime despite the fact that hundreds of them are killed day after day as a result of torture and executions being carried out without trial.

These fascist military rulers, however, should realize that neither torture, imprisonment nor executions will halt the revolutionary movement or liquidate it in the service of their NATO masters. To deceive world public opinion, the fascist regime claims it will continue to rule until democracy is restored to the country. [words indistinct] therefore, the fascist rulers govern under cover of parliament.

Our Kurdish people's movement in Turkey's Kurdistan is now enjoying wide support from all the Turkish revolutionary movements for the purpose of liberation, freedom and independence because the Turkish revolutionary forces have realized that Kurdistan has become a bastion of steadfastness for all the revolutionary forces in Turkey. The victory of our Kurdish people's movement in Kurdistan will be a severe blow to the U.S. intelligence service and to NATO. It will also be a great triumph for all the revolutionary movements in the Middle East.

COMMUNIST PARTY CLAIMS VICTORIES AGAINST REGIME

JN161540 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1500 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Kuysanjaq -- Communique No 17 issued by the Iraqi Communist Party Central Military Bureau on 2 February 1982 has stated that 1 helicopter was shot down and more than 132 enemy soldiers were wounded or killed in the suburbs of Kuysanjaq. The communique stated that on 27 January, a large mechanized enemy force, comprising soldiers from the army, the mercenaries and the Popular Army, advanced toward the Kuysanjaq plain in a desperate attempt to free the French experts who were kidnapped by the peshmerga of the national forces and to expel the national opposition forces from Kuysanjaq.

At 0700 the enemy forces engaged the Iraqi Communist Party peshmerga in a fierce battle which extended to the villages of Hasan and (Mirsireh). The enemy sustained heavy losses and called for help. The peshmerga launched a counterattack on the enemy with the cooperation of units from the national forces, particularly from the Kurdish Socialist Party in Iraq. At 1400 the enemy airlifted its special forces in five helicopters and landed them behind the national opposition forces. Backed by seven other helicopters and one fighter plane, the enemy forces clashed with the peshmerga.

On 28 and 29 January, the courageous peshmerga confronted the enemy forces which tried to comb the areas near (Bayiz Agha) and the surrounding villages.

I. The following losses were sustained by the enemy during the 3 days of battle:
1. More than 132 killed or wounded.
2. Twenty-eight soldiers drowned in [word indistinct] river.
3. Twenty-five mercenaries, belonging to the (Tahsin Quways) and Qadir Faraj groups, were killed.
4. One personnel carrier was destroyed.
5. One personnel carrier and four vehicles were sunk in the river.
6. One helicopter was shot down.

II. The national forces sustained the following losses:
1. Eight Iraqi Communist Party peshmerga were martyred and two others taken prisoners.
2. Three peshmerga belonging to the other national were martyred and two others were wounded. Two of those killed were from the Kurdish Socialist Party in Iraq.

Victory to the joint struggle of the Iraqi people and the national forces. Down with Saddam Husayn's bloody regime and glory to the martyrs of the Iraqi national movement and the Kurdish liberation movement.

QUEEN NUR READS HUSAYN LETTER AT GEORGETOWN

JN162206 Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2015 GMT 16 Mar 82

[King Husayn's message read on his behalf by Queen Nur at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., on 15 March 1982 -- videotape]

[Text] Mr President, distinguished guests, I am honored to be here today and deeply appreciate your invitation. Among its many distinctions, Georgetown University has been a pioneer in international studies. May I salute the university and its leaders for the impressive role they have played. The establishment of the School of Foreign Service, the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies are noble landmarks in building bridges of understanding among the peoples of the world.

I am not a political person, nor do I assume responsibilities in that field. But I am obviously aware, affected by and concerned about the political conflict in the Middle East. There is perhaps no issue in history which has been so inexhaustibly reported, analyzed and debated as the so-called Arab-Israeli problem. I am certain that as scholars, students and persons of experience and influence, this audience is familiar with most of what has been said, and that indeed many of you have contributed to the discussions. It is perhaps a perfect irony that so little has been done to solve a problem which has been so intensively examined. It is for this reason and to this audience that his majesty has requested me to share certain of his views in the hope that they will stimulate the actions the problems demand. I am proud to convey to you and to all Americans the following open letter from His Majesty King Husayn:

I am addressing this letter to our friends in the United States to express my urgent conviction that there will be no peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict unless all principals undertake formidable new initiatives for peace before the end of this year.

I believe it is my duty to share with you some of my worries and concerns and to explain that I believe a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is still an illusive objective. Let me begin with November 1967 and the enactment of the United Nations Resolutions 242. I was one of the Arab negotiators who participated with representatives of the United States Government in formulating the interpretation of Resolution 242, including a timeframe for its implementation. More importantly, the United States of America gave us at that time its full assurances of the principles and foundations which were to apply to the just and durable peace we both sought. I negotiated with Mr Arthur Goldberg, the head of the United States delegation to the United Nations. I visited Washington and talked to the late President Lyndon B. Johnson, his principal advisers and others. As a result Resolution 242 was accepted by Jordan and Egypt following its unanimous adoption by the Security Council. Regarding Jerusalem, the United States held that it recognizes neither Israeli nor Jordanian claims of sovereignty over the city but on the basis of the United Nations partition plan of 1947 supported a special status for Jerusalem as an international city. Jordan argued that Arab Jerusalem was occupied territory and must return to Arab sovereignty. However, if the world community sought an international Jerusalem, then Jordan's position will be that both Arab and Israeli Jerusalem should obviously form the international city. I further made it abundantly clear that I could not bargain over one inch of Palestinian territory or one iota of Palestinian rights. This has been my constant position throughout. When Arab Jerusalem was returned to Arab sovereignty, I suggested that then and in a contest of a comprehensive just peace, Jerusalem could become the essence and symbol of peace among all followers of the three great monotheistic religions.

I was assured that the Security Council Resolution 242 would be implemented within an estimated 6 months of its adoption. All the tragedies and dangers that followed are attributable to the lack of progress in implementing Security Council Resolution 242 and particularly to the American inaction in carrying out the United States commitments pertaining to that resolution. More serious is the apparent erosion over time of the position and commitments regarding the United States' interpretation of that resolution.

The highlights and pertinent subsequent events followed: 1973 brought another military eruption and in 1974 in Rabat, at an Arab summit meeting, the PLO was unanimously recognized by all Arab states as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It was a logical manifestation of the Arab desire and commitment to the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace. Obviously, the Palestinian tragedy and problem could not be resolved without the active participation of the primary victims, the Palestinian people.

Israel has expanded dramatically from its original boundaries assigned under the partition plan of 1947. By 1949, she had annexed by force additional areas of Palestine, a process she has continued in every subsequent war she has waged, until the annexations were 10 times her original size. Israel fired the first shot in 1956 and again in 1967; 1973 was the only exception when Egypt and Syria struck back in reaction to the continued occupation of their territories and all of Palestine. The ensuing stalemate resulted from tragic inaction to implement Resolution 242 and the lack of movement toward a comprehensive peace.

Israel annexed Arab Jerusalem and then added to the city Arab territories totalling almost 1/5 of the occupied West Bank. Israeli settlements rapidly spread throughout the occupied areas. Within days after signing the Camp David accords, Israel reneged on a commitment to the United States to freeze further settlements. Instead, she began expanding ones and creating new ones on an unprecedented scale. Palestinians either live under the nightmare of occupation and the denial of their human rights or are physically attacked by the Israeli war machine, supplied over the years with the latest technology which United States genius produces. If there is to be any hope for progress toward peace, we must dispel the mythe and eliminate the mistakes which have characterized past peace efforts. The first and foremost fallacy is the question of security with land. The area is much too confined in this age of missiles and supersonics for territory to provide meaningful defense. When you overfly Beirut in a commercial aircraft, you can, from the cockpit, often see not only Beirut but Damascus. Amman, Haifa, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and beyond.

At the time of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, Israel was in occupation of 10 times the land originally alloted to it by the United Nations. Yet, she suffered more casualties and losses than in her combined history. Territory was no defense. Unlawful occupation is a contradiction of peace and a guaranteed threat to security. There are both reasonable and practical measures unrelated to territorial acquisition to assure a nations's security. This is a mutual problem for all nations of the world. Israel is no exception.

The only solution to the problem of the West Bank and other Palestinian territories occupied since June 1967 is self-determination by the people who live there under conditions of total freedom from occupation. This is not a dangerous principle. It is fundamental to your own beliefs. It is the basis of Israel's only claim to existence and the only source of her future security.

There have been several references by a variety of people, the most recent being Senator Edward Kennedy, emphasizing the supposed fact that Israel is a truly democratic state. Many have even referred to it as one of the great democracies of our time and the only democracy in the Middle East. It is this democratic state of Israel which has brought in its troops, time and again, to fire on boys and girls demonstrating within the compounds of their schools and colleges against the excesses of occupation. The most glaring and frequent example is Bi'r Zayt University which is regularly attacked and closed. Israel is a democracy in which a stone thrown by a youth at an Israeli military patrol is reason enough for him or her to be fired upon and jailed indefinitely without trial, reason enough to summarily evict his or her family from their homes and blow them up with all their earthly possessions.

Democracy, Israeli style, places bombs in the cars of elected Arab mayors, elected under Israeli occupation, which mutilates them for life without the perpetrators being prosecuted or suspects identified.

This is the democracy which takes the child from his Jewish mother just because she has married an Arab. This is the democracy which deserves reprobation not adulation. If these are democratic practices, the term needs to be redefined.

Israel is also a nuclear power, a nonsignatory of the international nonproliferation treaty. She lashed out with United States supplied equipment at an Arab country which is a signatory to that international treaty, overflying in the process two Arab states in violation of their sovereignty.

Israel is planning to construct a canal linking the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea to occupy territories in violation of international law, and despite the fact that 1/2 of the Dead Sea is Jordanian territory. Just as ominous are Israel's declared plans to use the flow of water from the canal to cool the new nuclear establishments she plans to construct.

Israel now claims and is annexing the area of occupied Palestine. The so-called autonomy Israel envisages is to treat the Palestinians as aliens, residing on land usurped by Israel.

The remaining question in Israel's mind is what limited rights she may choose to give the Palestinians in running some of their administrative affairs under total Israeli control. Israel has changed the demography and historical nature of the land, expropriated its water and other resources including its people.

Finally, Israel annexed the occupied Golan Heights and is poised to attack Lebanon. That is the current unpleasant picture.

The entire area is presently threatened. It is an area of great strategic importance, a critical transportation and communication crossroads and the world's major source of energy.

It has been interesting to witness the support for Iran of military hardware, munitions and spare parts from Israel and radical elements in our area. Israeli supplies were reaching Iran during the American hostage crisis and the American arms embargo. One can only deduce that Israel seeks the polarization of the area on a monopoly of the American friendship.

At stake in all this is our freedom, our identity as an Arab nation, American national interest and world peace.

What contributed to this state of crisis and its magnitude? Obviously, among the major factors is United States inaction in implementing Resolution 242 and the gradual erosion of its basic commitments to the principles that it adopted in 1967 when it formulated the resolution. One has but to read the recently published memoirs of former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and his attempts to justify his actions in support of Israel during the 1973 war on the ground that the United States could not permit Soviet-made weapons to score a victory over American-made weapons. What a simplistic line of logic for such an able man.

The question is what drove Egypt on the days of the late President Nasir to purchase Soviet-made weapons in the first place? It was American and Western refusal to provide weapons to the Arab states for their legitimate self-defense. It was in fact Israel which in 1948 to 1949 first introduced massive Eastern bloc weapons to the area.

More to the point, what caused the 1973 war? Was it not the failure to implement Resolution 242? It was then that Dr Kissinger started his much-publicized shuttle diplomacy, gradually converting the United States commitment and role regarding Resolution 242 to one of a messenger and postman between the parties. This has continued through Camp David to the present.

Why would the American secretary of state commit the United States of America never to talk directly with the representatives of the Palestinians, the victims, until they first recognize the right of their oppressor to exist when the oppressor does not recognize their existence, let alone any rights on their legitimate soil?

Obviously, at some point mutual recognition is a logical solution. But only after the question is answered: Which Israel the Palestinians and Arabs are supposed to recognize?

Dr Kissinger also represented a school of thought in America I challenged at the time that held the stronger Israel was militarily, the more secure and positive she would be in making the needed concessions for a just and durable peace. Now Israel is capable of waging intensive war on all fronts for at least 6 months without any outside assistance or supplies. Indeed the Israeli arms industry has become so advanced that Israel's Defense Minister Ariel Sharon claims no further need of any armaments from the United States except possibly advanced fighter aircraft. Eventually, Israel aims to be totally self-sufficient and uncontrolled in the field of armaments.

In the meantime, Jordan, which has the longest cease-fire line with Israel and which faces other external threats cannot meet her minimum needs of self-defense. Jordan is in an area saturated with by the most modern arms produced by both the West and the East. We have demonstrated by action our readiness as a national duty to preserve stability and freedom throughout the Arab world whenever and wherever it is jeopardized. Jordan has never violated the terms of its arms agreements with the United States or any other sources. Jordan has never been an aggressor or entered battle except in fulfilment of its right of self-defense or under validatory obligations.

In 1974, Jordan was obliged by Zionist and Israeli pressures on the American Government to accept from the United States an inferior, immobile antiaircraft missile system. We have been subsequently criticized for turning to other sources for a more effective system. Even now when Jordan is considering asking the United States Government, not the Israeli prime minister or his government or the Israeli Knesset for weapons to meet its basic self-defense needs, a storm is created over the issue in Washington. This detracts more from the image and credibility of the United States than it affects Jordan. After all we have the final choice of what we will or will not accept from the United States or from any other source. We cannot afford quantity so we must seek quality equipment. We will begin by asking our friends in the United States for our requirements. Their response will determine our future actions.

To address the Middle East problem and its possible solution, one can state only that it now lies mainly with the United States of America to recognize the urgency of the situation and the dangers to all of us. The United States must remove the dust from the commitments of Resolution 242 made to the parties before the world. Then at the earliest possible time, all those willing to contribute toward the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area must lend their weight to the achievement of that objective.

But the first question that must be answered is whether the United States of America is prepared to honor the commitments it made in November 1967. Those commitments were based on the highest American principles of fairness and justice and in recognition of its national interests. The question is not for the Arabs to suggest what is next but for the United States to decide and to act upon agreements that already exist. Thank you. [applause]

This ends his majesty's letter. I hope it will answer some of your questions, facilitate an understanding of the problems we face and contribute to an ultimate solution. I thank you for your kind and warm reception.

MINISTER PRAISES VILLAGE LEAGUE RESIGNATION

JN161809 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Hasan Ibrahim, Jordanian minister of occupied land affairs, made a statement this afternoon in which he expressed satisfaction with the resignation of several members from the village leagues. He explained that the charge of high treason to be brought against village league members if they do not tender their resignation during a maximum period of 1 month will make them resign from the leagues, or at least it will cancel the political concept for which Israel is working.

The Jordanian minister stressed that Amman is ready to give compensation to the villages whose representatives withdraw from the leagues.

The Jordanian minister also stated that there was no coordination with the PLO before the Jordanian decision was issued on the leagues. The PLO and Jordan, however, did condemn the village leagues during Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee meetings.

In reply to a question the Jordanian minister said that the Jordanian decision does not contradict the 1974 Rabat summit resolutions which stated that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people. The Jordanian minister added: Jordan, however, has a responsibility to shoulder and a duty to carry out toward the cause and the Palestinian people.

FRANJIYAH CALLS FOR CHRISTIAN REUNIFICATION

NC161846 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah has called for the need to work for the reunification of the Christian ranks in the interest of Lebanon and all Lebanese. He said that Tony Franjiyah [Sulayman Franjiyah's son] was murdered in accordance with an American plan and that the explosions in Lebanese areas later on were also in accordance with this plan to compel Lebanese to emigrate from Lebanon so as to empty Lebanon and to let the Palestinians settle there.

In an interview with the magazine AL-JAMHUR, President Franjiyah launched an attack on President Sarkis, pointing to the failure of President Sarkis to implement the resolutions adopted by the Cairo and Riyadh summit conferences, thus missing the chance afforded him at the time and giving the Palestinians the opportunity to foil Arab resolutions related to the gathering of arms.

In reply to a question holding the Lebanese Front similarly responsible, Franjiyah said that the Lebanese Front, including the Phalangists, had agreed to surrender heavy weapons and to have these weapons gathered under the supervision of the Lebanese Army provided that Palestinian weapons were gathered under the supervision of the Arab Deterrent Forces.

PREMIER AL-WAZZAN PRAISES FRENCH STATEMENT

NC151740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today described the recent French statement as demonstrating a kind and praiseworthy sentiment. He expressed the hope that the contents of the statement manifest a stand expressive of a French policy adopted following President Mitterrand's recent visit to Israel.

The prime minister added: We hope that all states, particularly those that uphold human values and principles, will adopt a similar stand as this and will project tough stands that will make Israel think a great deal before committing any aggression.

Asked about the Israeli concentrations, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Information in this regard has not changed much; the Israeli concentrations and movements are continuing. This is why we have constantly warned that we are not completely reassured despite what we have heard from Philip Habib.

PALESTINIANS DENY SYRIAN PRESENCE AT CASTLE

NC121207 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 Mar 82

[12 March statement by a Palestinian military spokesman -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Zionist enemy has claimed in fabricated news reports that a Syrian observation point with electronic equipment exists in Ash-Shaqif Castle [in southern Lebanon].

The Palestinian military spokesman denies the existence of such an observation post. The Zionist enemy's purpose in announcing such news is to justify his aggression against the south.

The Palestinian military spokesman also affirms that this point is designated for UN emergency forces.

It should be recalled that the enemy radio yesterday broadcast reports about the existence of a Syrian observation point in Ash-Shaqif Castle -- a matter which it considered a violation of the so-called red line, which the Syrians must respect.

KUNA Report

LD131412 Kuwait KUNA in English 1100 GMT 13 Mar 82

[By Muhammad Salam]

[Text] Beaufort Castle, south Lebanon, 13 Mar (KUNA) -- There are no Syrian soldiers in this Palestinian guerrilla stronghold of southern Lebanon contrary to Israeli claims in this regard.

This correspondent, in an un-expected visit to Beaufort Castle, saw a dozen Palestinian guerrillas manning the historic tower-like stronghold which overlooks the northern Israeli terrain as deep as the upper Galilee district.

The visit was concluded without any coordination with the Palestinian Liberation Organization's information department in Beirut as well as without any coordination with any of the eight guerrilla factions or the 13 leftist groups of the "Lebanese National Movement" [words indistinct] fields militias to the "joint forces" with the PLO.

The guerrillas, while having their mjaddara (cooked lentils) supper, willingly showed this correspondent their membership cards in two factions of the PLO, the mainstream group Al-Fatah headed by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) headed by Nayif Hwatimah.

Judging by what things looked like from Beaufort Castle, a state of blackout seemed in effect throughout Haddad's enclave as no lights were on throughout the chain of villages controlled by the Israeli-backed militiamen. No car lights were even noticed and "it has been like that for about three weeks," the guerrillas said.

Life in the adjacent southern Lebanese market town of Nabatiyah was proceding normally, even at night. Shops were open as late as 10 P.M. (local time) Friday. Social life was surprisingly active in (?this town) raided around 40 times by Israeli jetfighters since the March, 15, 1978 Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon.

Lebanese leftist militiamen and Palestinian guerrillas manned three checkpoints in the town's main street to check identity cards and keep law and order.

In Beirut the PLO-run news agency WAFA distributed a communique by the movement's military spokesman denying "Zionist allegations" that the Syrians have established an observation post at Beaufort Castle.

The Israeli claim, Lebanese military sources noted, followed the disclosure by KUNA in an exclusive report last Tuesday that the Israelis have established electronic-guided artillery emplacements and machine gun positions in the easternmost sector of Haddad's enclave to automatically fire at quietly-infiltrating Palestinian guerrillas.

The Israeli electronic-guided equipment included U.S.-made 155-millimeter howitzer guns, 106-millimeter recoilless anti-armor cannons and 12.7-millimeter machine guns.

ISRAELI ARMORED CARS TAKE UP COMBAT POSITIONS

NC150617 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Reports from the south say that Israeli heavy armored cars have entered the hills of (Al'udays) and Kafr Killa and taken combat positions.

More Israeli Movements

NC140758 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 14 Mar 82

[Text] Reports from the south say that Israeli movements are still taking place in the border region and that flares were fired at night over Qal'at ash-Shaqif.

Israel has brought in modern equipment and installed it in (Tilal an-Nabi 'Uwaydah) and At-Taybah to monitor all movements in the area.

In spite of bad weather conditions, Israeli warplanes did not stop their flights over the south, sometimes reaching Sidon.

EXPLOSION KILLS ONE, DAMAGES NORTH YEMEN EMBASSY

NC161310 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Excerpts] According to available information, the explosion this morning near the old Egyptian Embassy building in Ramlat al-Bayda' killed 1 person and wounded 12 others; 5 of the wounded have been moved to the Beirut Hospital and 4 others to the American University Hospital.

Heavy material damage was caused by the explosion, most of it sustained by the Northern Yemeni Embassy.

BOMB DAMAGES FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER, INJURES 5

JN151513 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] There was a fierce explosion this afternoon at the French cultural center in western Beirut caused by a 5 kilogram explosive charge. Initial reports say the explosion wounded five persons, two teachers and three students. It is also believed that there is great material damage.

ALGERIAN EMBASSY SAID TO RECEIVE THREATS

NC160718 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] After a 3-month absence of the Saudi ambassador from Beirut and a few days after the Kuwaiti ambassador and members of his staff departed for their country, the Algerian Embassy has received threats it will be blown up like the Iraqi Embassy.

A Western diplomatic source in Beirut has revealed that the Algerian Embassy received several threats during the past few days. The source affirmed to a news agency that the Algerian Government has taken note of that and will adopt the necessary measures at the appropriate time.

BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICIAL KIDNAPPED IN BEIRUT

NC160713 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Armed men in western Beirut have kidnapped Muhammad al-Miqdad, the second secretary at the British Embassy, as he was going to work.

An unknown person contacted his family during the night asking a ransom of $150,000 for his release.

Diplomat Released Unharmed

OW170039 Hong Kong AFP in English 0025 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Beirut, 16 Mar (AFP) -- Second secretary at the British Embassy here, Muhammad al-Miqdad, was released here today by unknown kidnappers after being seized on Monday.

Lebanese TV, announcing the news, said that the diplomat, of Lebanese origin, returned to his home late today. It gave no more details.

However informed sources said that Mr al-Miqdad was freed in the Barbir quarter of West Beirut, near the museum "passage" which links the Christian and Moslem sectors of the city. From there he returned home by taxi.

Press reports said earlier today that Mr al-Miqdad's kidnappers had demanded a 150,000 dollar ransom for his release, this being confirmed by the Foreign Office in London.

However Mr al-Miqdad's family, contacted by telephone after his release, stated that it had paid nothing.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES BAHRAINI EMBASSY CLOSURE

NC171022 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Ambassador Kasrawan Labaki, the secretary general of the Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Ministry, today denied press reports that Bahraini diplomats have left Lebanon and that the embassy was closed. He said that Ambassador Mahmud 'Abdallah Bahlul is now in his country for health reasons and that the embassy's counselor has been transferred to Washington.

Ambassador Labaki received the British Embassy charge d'affaires this morning who briefed him on details of the kidnapping of the embassy's second secretary Muhammad al-Miqdad and the general political situation.

SPANISH EMBASSY DENIES ADVISING EVACUATION

NC151314 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] The Spanish Embassy in Beirut issued a statement at noon today denying that it has advised the Spanish nationals residing in Lebanon to leave Lebanon. The embassy described reports to this effect as unfounded.

ARAB DETERRENT FORCE REPLACED IN TRIPOLI

NC122230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 12 Mar 82

[Text] Security reports do not indicate that any incident worth mentioning has taken place. However, internal security forces continue to operate mechanized patrols and to establish flying barriers in the streets to search cars for weapons or explosives.

Yesterday [12 March], President Sarkis discussed the security situation and other current matters with Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] Commander Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib.

At the presidential palace, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan discussed the security situation, particularly in the port of Tripoli, with Public Security Director General Faruq Abu al-Lam'. It is known that the public security forces assumed security responsibilities in the port of Tripoli a few days ago following the [ADF] withdrawal.

EXPLOSIVES FOUND IN TRIPOLI, SUSPECTS ARRESTED

NC130849 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 13 Mar 82

[Excerpt] The security committee in Tripoli last night discovered two boxes of explosives in a warehouse near the closed zone in the port. The national security forces arrested two suspects, who confessed that they participated in this operation and that they have three accomplices. The security committee immediately mounted a campaign to arrest the other three suspects, who are known for their links with the fascist conspiratorial forces.

CLASH ERUPTS IN TRIPOLI, TRUCE TEAM MEMBERS HIT

NC141606 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 14 Mar 82

[Text] An atmosphere of caution and anxiety is dominating the city of Tripoli in the wake of the clash at noon today in An-Najm square in the northern capital in which four persons sustained various injuries. When security committee members intervened to contain a dispute in the square between armed communists and members of an armed organization, the communists opened fire on the security committee members, wounding three and one of the armed group. Shooting then continued at the scene of the clash and the atmosphere intensified throughout the city. Meanwhile, efforts have been made to contain any repercussions. As for the other Lebanese areas, marked calm prevails and no incidents have been reported since the morning.

ARMENIAN SECRET ARMY DEFINES OBJECTIVES

GF161034 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanese Armenians in Armenian 1330 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Letter sent to the Voice of the Lebanese Armenians Radio by the Los Angeles branch of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia -- read by announcer]

[Summary] Recently a state of confusion has been observed among reactionary governments. They are wondering why our organization has aimed its attacks at European establishments. They state that our main enemy is Turkey and not England, Switzerland or the United States. They want to convince us that aggressive operations will only harm the Armenian cause and tarnish the high reputation of the Armenian people throughout the world.

The reactionary governments are pretending that they truly care about our high reputation and cause. They are even suggesting that we rest and terminate our operations. However, isn't the rest taken for 66 years enough for our people?

We believe we must make a number of clarifications about the reasons why imperialist interests are being attacked by our organization. Even though our liberation struggle is against the fascist Turkish Government, our primary enemy is international imperialism and reactionary Armenian party leaders who cooperate with imperialists.

International imperialism is our main enemy because historic facts have proved that the primary condition for the liberation of an oppressed nation -- the Armenians form such a nation -- is its emancipation from the yoke of imperialism and colonialism. Imperialist governments deceive nations by convincing them that they have the right to determine their own future. However, the individual interest of imperialist countries have always been their primary concern. They have always neglected the right of nations to determine their own future, and opposed their just struggle for liberation.

The significant historic period for the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia [ASALA] -- which is struggling for the liberation of the oppressed Armenian people -- has begun. Moreover, as we stated earlier reactionary party leaders are among our enemies. This is due to the fact that while ASALA always moved forward during its 7 years of existence, the Armenian reactionary party leaders remained loyal to the imperialist and Zionist ideologies and cooperated with such entities. This cooperation by the Armenian reactionary leaders serves only the imperialist West -- which has always attempted to choke the legal cause of our people.

Historic facts prove that the United States, England, France and various other imperialist countries were never concerned with the interest of the Armenian people. There is not even a single nation in the whole world at present which does not live on its own land. We are the only exception. Even the Palestinians -- who are deprived of their fatherland as we are -- are struggling on their own lands. All the oppressed nations of the world are struggling in their own countries.

Why are we an exception? It is because the imperialist countries believed for 66 years -- in fact, since the deportation of the Armenian people from their own country -- that we would dissolve and lose our identity and culture. They thought that we would forget our lands.

Not a single reactionary country is endeavoring to resolve our cause and assist us in regaining our lands.

However, ASALA operations are gradually affecting these governments. The political and revolutionary victories of our oppressed Armenian people will be achieved by us. We will never stop our attacks until we regain our legal rights.

[Signed] ASALA, Los Angeles branch, 22 February 1982

PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT MEETS UNDER AL-ASAD

JN161720 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] At 1230 today the Central Command of the Progressive National Front [PNF] met under PNF Chairman His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad.

During the meeting discussion focused on crimes committed by the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang against the sons of Hamah in implementation of the imperialist and Zionist schemes which are hostile to Syria and to the Arab nation.

The PNF Central Command praised the national unity of our people and their cohesive stand behind their command to confront the nation's enemies, imperialist, Zionist and agent reactionary forces. The PNF Central Command also praised the courageous confrontation by the members of the Ba'th Party and the other parties in the PNF of the Muslim Brotherhood gang crimes in Hamah and the sacrifices they offered to foil the conspiracy this criminal gang sought to carry out.

The Central Command strongly condemned the role that the United States and Saddam Husayn's regime played through their incitement to carry out crimes against the sons of our innocent people. The Central Command also reviewed the political situation in the region, the recent political activities and the contacts underway to strengthen the steadfastness of Syria and the Arab nation against enemy schemes.

DEFENSE MINISTER MEETS WITH USSR DEPUTY MINISTER

JN161520 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1452 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Damascus, 16 Mar (SANA) -- Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and the armed forces and defense minister, received today Nikolay Nikolayevich Smelyakov, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, and his delegation. The meeting was attended by Maj Gen 'Awwad Dabbagh, Syrian deputy defense minister, and Vladimir Yukhin, USSR ambassador in Damascus.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RETURNS FROM IRAN

JN162044 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and his accompanying delegation returned to Damascus this evening at the end of a 5-day visit to Iran. During this visit, Khaddam held talks with Iranian officials on various aspects of the situation in the region and the imperialist and Zionist schemes which aim at imposing U.S. and Zionist control on the region. The talks also dealt with the consolidation of relations between the two countries in all fields.

ARAB LEAGUE'S CHEDLI KLIBI DEPARTS 16 MAR

JN161308 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1240 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Damascus, 16 Mar (SANA) -- Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Damascus today after a short visit during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

'ALI: ARBITRATION DESIRABLE IN DISPUTE OVER TABAH

TA161228 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 Mar 82 pp 1, 15

[Report on interview with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by correspondent on Arab affairs 'Oded Granot on 15 March -- place not given]

[Text] "We Egyptians have no difficulty or doubts about the demarcation of the border in Tabah. We have known that border for hundreds and thousands of years. We have proven it to you, both on the map and in the field. However, since we have not succeeded in convincing you and each party adheres to its point of view, we believe that arbitration is the best way to solve the dispute."

Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister General Kamal Hasan 'Ali made these remarks in an exclusive interview with MA'ARIV in which he confirmed that he would raise the dispute about the demarcation of the border at Tabah and other points in his meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin this morning.

In the interview the Egyptian foreign minister explained that until arbitration took place "each party must respect the opinion of its counterpart." 'Ali further disclosed that in his talks with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon yesterday they had not discussed any technical details but merely the ways to settle the dispute between Israel and Egypt on the issue of the demarcation of the border. Would he also discuss the calling off of President Mubarak's visit to Jerusalem with the prime minister?

'Ali: "Yes, this topic will be on the agenda of the talks with Mr Begin. We will also discuss the relationship which will evolve between the two countries after 26 April."

Question: In your talks in Israel did you discuss the possibility of turning the Tabah area into a demilitarized or neutral zone?

'Ali: "Yes. A demilitarized zone, however, cannot remain as such forever. We must settle this matter either by arbitration or reconciliation, as stipulated in clause 7 of the peace treaty."

In the interview, the Egyptian deputy prime minister meticulously reconstructed the demarcation of the border in the Sinai in 1906 conducted by a joint Egyptian-Turkish committee and added: "The borderline was demarcated in an indusputable manner and there is no doubt that it goes over the mountain ridge north of Wadi Tabah. The original demarcation may be discerned on the ridge itself but this did not persuade the Israelis. Moreover, we asked an aviation company to photograph the border in 1948. So what is the reason for this dispute now? My colleagues, army officers who stayed in the region in 1940, 1942 and 1947, know very well where the border was."

Question: What will happen if you do not succeed in persuading Israel on the issue of the demarcation of the border at Tabah?

'Ali: "We must implement clause 7 which refers to settling a dispute between Israel and Egypt by means of arbitration. The dispute applies not only to Tabah but also to other areas."

Question: However, Tabah is the most sensitive point....?

'Ali: "Believe me, it is not only Tabah. It is a matter of principle and it applies to all the points."

The Egyptian deputy prime minister expressed his belief that some time would pass before President Mubarak visits Israel due to the sensitivity aroused by this matter. On the other hand, the Egyptian minister of defense, Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, will come to Israel as scheduled. General 'Ali foresees "a dramatic change" in the general atmosphere after the completion of the withdrawal from the Sinai, not only in regard to Israeli-Egyptian relations but to the entire region. "I believe a new era from the psychological point of view will open before Egypt. People were very sensitive about the occupied territories, and this is a fact. However, after the final withdrawal people will not hesitate both to implement the peace treaty and to establish good relations with Israel and the Israeli people. There will be relations between the peoples and not just between the governments," 'Ali added.

Question: Is it possible to guarantee that the resumption of relations between Egypt and the Arab world will indeed not be at Israel's expense?

'Ali: "There is no doubt that it will have no effect on the peace relations but exactly the opposite. As President Mubarak stated 3 days ago: 'Egypt will perform the role of liaison and bridge the gap between Israel and the Arab world.' This fact has been proved in two international conventions held recently in Cairo. Each convention was attended by seven Arab states alongside an Israeli delegation."

The Egyptian minister expressed his belief that the time had not yet come for Israel, Egypt and the United States to hold a meeting at the ministerial level to promote the autonomy negotiations. In his meeting today with Dr Burg, the head of the Israeli delegation to the autonomy talks, 'Ali will discuss the working schedule of the teams of experts in the upcoming months.

Question: Has Egypt discerned any signs of U.S. bitterness about the return of Soviet technicians?

'Ali: "Not at all. Relations between Egypt and the United States have never been stronger. This is a fact. We were forced to bring back some Soviet technicians because there are several projects they started and did not complete. The freeze on the projects inflicts large financial losses daily, and we do not want to lose any more," 'Ali added with a smile.

NO RECOGNITION OF EGYPTIAN SOVEREIGNTY IN TABAH

TA161411 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] A way to solve the dispute over the Tabah area south of Elat seems to have been found during the conversation held between Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Thus, Israelis living and working there will be allowed to continue to do so in the future as well, without needing permits. The prime minister's office, however, has made it clear that the agreement being formulated does not include an Israeli recognition of Egyptian sovereignty over the area. During the meeting, Mr 'Ali brought Mr Begin a message from President Mubarak, in which the Egyptian president promises to visit Israel. Mr Begin has described the message as most friendly.

SHARON, 'ALI INTERVIEWED ON MEETING WITH BEGIN

TA161325 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Interview with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by unidentified correspondents outside the prime minister's office on 16 Mar -- recorded]

[Text] ['Ali] I conveyed to the prime minister the message from President Mubarak, and the meeting with Prime Minister Begin was conducted in a very friendly and cordial atmosphere.

The discussion covered several areas of mutual interest, including the autonomy talks, where the two parties agreed to give a new momentum to the talks in the near future. We discussed also the bilateral relations and the technical differences of points of view concerning the borderline, which is still existing and which will be further discussed in the meeting of the high committee.

[Question] Did a possible visit by President Mubarak to Israel come up in the talks?

['Ali] The message included this -- the visit -- and Prime MInister Begin extended or reextended the invitation to President Mubarak.

[Question] Will Jerusalem be included in such a visit?

['Ali] Well, I think this will be discussed later.

[Question] Mr Minister, does this mean the visit is on or off?

['Ali] Well, it will be on.

[Question] It will be on?

['Ali] Yes.

[Question] When?

['Ali] It will be decided later. Again, the 25th is not a target date for anything.

[Question] Mr Sharon, if the border dispute isn't resolved at all, will Israel refuse to pull back across the border later till it is resolved?

[Sharon] Why should we put it that way? It should be solved. It's going to be solved.

[Question] And if it isn't, how would you put it, sir?

[Sharon] Why should we use this term? It's going to be solved. Thank you.

SHARON, 'ALI HOLD TALKS ON SINAI, NORMALIZATION

TA161320 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] A meeting of the supreme committee on normalization issues, chaired by Ministers 'Ali and Sharon, has ended in Jerusalem. Our correspondent, Aharon Barne'a, says border demarcation in the Tabah area was not discussed in the meeting, which was devoted to solving procedural problems pertaining to Sinai. Egypt's foreign minister is now meeting with the Israeli foreign minister.

DISPUTE MUST BE SOLVED 1 WEEK BEFORE WITHDRAWAL

TA161535 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker, in front of the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem -- live]

[Text] In the deliberations with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, some possible lines for a solution -- or at least an interim solution -- to the dispute over the border demarcation around Tabah and to other problems could be discerned today.

The discussion over the permanent status of the area under dispute will continue to be conducted in the next few weeks by a bipartisan committee, without need to resort to arbitration. Neither party will have clear sovereignty over the area before the committee reaches a decision, but civilian life will probably continue normally. Army and police forces from both Israel and Egypt will refrain from crossing the northern or southern lines marking the boundaries of that area.

The discussion of this issue and the other matters pertaining to the evacuation will be completed in early April at another meeting of the supreme committee, headed by Ministers Sharon and 'Ali. In the meantime, 'Ali will take the proposals to President Mubarak to read, and the government in Jerusalem will also be called upon to discuss them.

Today, Defense Minister Sharon told the guests from Egypt that all the arrangements for the border and the permanent procedures in the Sinai have to be completed by 1 week prior to the date for the final withdrawal. In the talks held by the supreme Sinai normalization committee, additional subjects were also discussed, among them the possibility that Egyptian and Palestinian populations might be exchanged on both sides of the border that will partition Rafah. The purchase of the natural gas produced at Sadot by Israel after the withdrawal was also mentioned, and the Egyptian commitment to approve the continued dismantling of the equipment from the Yamit District even after 25 April was reaffirmed.

An additional stratum to the relations that will be maintained after the withdrawal was provided during the talk held by the two foreign ministers -- Shamir and 'Ali -- when the two decided to hold periodic meetings, once every 3 months, to solve current problems.

As for President Mubarak's visit to Israel, he promised the prime minister in the message given to him today that he would indeed visit Israel. However, he asked that the date be postponed until a more propitious and convenient time. The prime minister replied by saying he would be glad to receive the Egyptian president heartily when he decides to make an official visit to Israel. It seems as though neither side is interested in creating a crisis over the pending visit. Kamal Hasan 'Ali will wind up his visit to Israel in a joint news conference with the defense minister tomorrow, after they hold a summing-up conversation over breakfast tomorrow in Tel Aviv.

BURG, 'ALI, GHALI HOLD TALKS ON AUTONOMY

TA161616 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Upon emerging from his meeting with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told our correspondent, Aharon Barne'a, that the problem of the demarcation of the border in the Tabah area near Elat has not yet been solved but it will be solved some time in the future.

A short time ago, Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Butrus Ghali ended a meeting with Minister Burg. After the meeting Dr Burg said that a proposal had been raised to resume the autonomy negotiations at the ministerial level. This was, however, up to the prime minister to decide. Our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, has learned that in the talks with Minister 'Ali, the prime minister rejected a proposal to convene the autonomy talks in Washington at the experts' level. Mr Begin emphasized that the talks must be held in this region and without any outside pressures.

Burg, 'Ali Comment

TA161734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] The heavy schedule of Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the members of his entourage in Jerusalem today concluded with a meeting with Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg.

At the end of the meeting, our correspondent on Arab affairs, Aharon Barne'a, spoke with the Egyptian foreign minister and with Dr Burg:

[Begin recording] [Barne'a] After the meeting with Dr Burg, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali confirmed that at stake is a serious attempt to resume the autonomy negotiations at the ministerial level, but he refused to elaborate. After bidding farewell in English, French and German to the members of the Egyptian delegation Dr Burg answered the same question.

[Burg] This idea was raised this morning, and we will discuss the matter. Now I am going to phone the prime minister to report about this talk and see how things develop.

[Barne'a] However, in principle, is this the direction?

[Burg] That is one of the possibilities.

[Barne'a] We asked the Egyptian foreign minister: Is it your intention to convene the ministers to the autonomy negotiations even before 25 April?

['Ali -- in English] We are always hopeful but we do not look to the 25th as a target date or as anything other than more normalization.

[Barne'a translates the above and continues] General 'Ali is pleased about his talks in Jerusalem today and said: Each time we meet we overcome difficulties and, therefore, I am pleased. And what about the dispute over the demarcation of the border in Tabah near Elat? 'Ali told us that the issue was still being discussed. I am convinced that the problem will be solved, however, we will have to wait and see.

From talks with members of the Egyptian delegation it pointedly emerges that what is actually underway here -- especially regarding the area of Tabah -- is a war of nerves between the Israeli and Egyptian parties during which everybody publicly expresses optimism. However, from this point to approving an agreement acceptable to both the Israeli Government and President Mubarak, the way is still obstructed by a number of obstacles. [end recording]

SHARON DEMANDS EGYPT CURB TERRORIST ACTIVITY

TA161939 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon pointed out to Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ali that the terrorist organizations have recently been trying to transfer explosives and arms from Egypt to the Gaza Strip. Sharon demanded that Egypt take measures to foil these moves, and 'Ali responded favorably to Israel's demand.

YAMIT SITUATION RAISED IN TALKS WITH 'ALI

TA170532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali this morning will confer again with the defense minister. Later, 'Ali and Sharon will hold a news conference and the guest will wind up his visit to Israel.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the situation in the Yamit District was raised several times during Minister 'Ali's talks in Israel. The prime minister noted the difficulties undergone by Israel in the evacuation of the district but reiterated that Israel would fulfill its part in the peace treaty and would hand over the area to Egypt on time.

Mr Begin stressed he would rather resign if he were forced to order the use of weapons the evacuate the district. The defense minister explained that it was decided to dismantle the houses in the Yamit District despite previous decisions to sell them to Egypt in the wake of attempts by members of the Stop the Sinai Withdrawal Movement to resettle in these houses. Our correspondent has further learned that Israel r jected a demand by the Egyptian delegation not to place border stones carrying the Israeli emblem in the Gaza Strip and the stones will be placed as planned.

EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON TABAH

TA170730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Thus far, the only achievement in the current round of talks is the agreement on the arrangement regarding the town of Rafah. Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali last night reiterated to our correspondent on Arab affairs, Aharon Barne'a, that the question of the Tabah area near Elat persisted and it would be raised again at the beginning of April in Cairo at the meeting of the joint Israeli-Egyptian supreme committee.

[Begin recording] [Barne'a] Are reports true that an agreement has indeed been reached regarding the demarcation of the border in the Tabah area near Elat? This was the first question we posed to the Egyptian foreign minister.

'Ali replied: As I have already noted, several ideas have been raised but we have not yet reached an agreement. The issue will be raised again at the joint committee at the beginning of next month. And what about the agreement on the issue of Rafah? 'Ali replied: The principles have been concluded but the specific details will be discussed by a subcommittee of the joint military committee in the next few days. Has the border in Rafah been demarcated exactly according to the international border of 1906? Rafah, 'Ali said, will be divided in two but this will in no way affect the inhabitants, neither Egyptians nor the inhabitants of the Gaza Strip in Rafah.

To press our point, we told the Egyptian foreign minister that upon his arrival in Israel at Ben-Gurion Airport, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said that he was convinced progress would be made in the current round of talks. Has such progress indeed been made? 'Ali said there is no doubt that the agreement [heskem] on the issue of Rafah is considered some sort of achievement, or in other words some sort of agreement [haskama], on a prevailing problem. However, as far as the problems of the borders and Tabah are concerned -- this will be the topic of another significant discussion.

Does the foreign minister believe that the problem of the borders, including the issue of Tabah, will be solved before the date of the final withdrawal? 'Ali replied: There is no other choice but to agree on a solution. However, reaching such a solution prior to or after the date of the withdrawal -- that is another matter altogether. Negotiations will continue also after 25 April.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali claimed that there had been no debate about an interim solution regarding the demarcation of the border. Other sources in the Egyptian delegation took pains to clarify that the proposals raised by the Israeli side would be submitted to President Mubarak for his decision.

Several members of the Egyptian delegation hinted -- and not by accident -- that Minister 'Ali is worried because he believes President Mubarak will find it hard to accept the positions presented by Israel. Having promised his people -- and especially the heads of the opposition parties with whom he is trying to affect a national reconciliation -- that the whole of the Sinai down to the last centimeter would be handed back to Egypt by 25 April, President Mubarak will find it very difficult to make concessions even on so-called technical matters as his predecessor, President Anwar as-Sadat, was able to do at the time. [end recording]

EGYPT'S GHALI SEES IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH ARABS

TA161154 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 16 Mar 82 pp 1, 7

[Report on interview with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali by Semadar Peri on 15 March -- place not given]

[Text] "I have heard about the current tense situation in Israel in anticipation of the withdrawal from the Sinai; I am sorry about it but Egypt is certainly not to blame for it," Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said yesterday in an exclusive interview with YEDI'OT AHARONOT.

When Israel informed President Mubarak that if he refuses to visit Jerusalem he had better not visit Israel at all, the Egyptian president had no other choice but to announce that the visit could not take place, Dr Ghali said. "You should not have posed such an extreme ultimatum and made it public. The publicity surrounding the nature of the visit became a matter of prestige for both leaders, Begin and Mubarak. Had things been conducted discretely the visit would have been possible," Ghali added.

"President Mubarak's message to Prime Minister Begin is optimistic and friendly but the president will not visit Jerusalem. Nevertheless, the Egyptian position will not change after the withdrawal or at a later stage when Egypt gets down to restoring its relations with the Arab countries. "The return of the Sinai to Egypt within the framework of the peace treaty with Israel will serve as a model that Cairo will present to the Arab countries with which it will resume relations in the not too distant future."

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ghali added: On the issue of the demarcation of the border, if the two parties do not reach an agreement Egypt will demand arbitration by a third party, particularly concerning the area of Tabah. The arbitration will take place after the date of the final withdrawal; Cairo has discerned signals from various Arab countries indicating their desire to resume diplomatic relations; Egypt intends to improve its relations with the Soviet Union; the relationship with Moscow will be expanded after the withdrawal. This notwithstanding, the Camp David accords have been and remain the sole basis within which Egypt will strive to continue the negotiations.

BEGIN SAID PLANNING TRIP TO U.S. IN NOVEMBER

TA170919 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Mar 82 p 2

[Report by New York correspondent Shlomo Shamir]

[Text] New York, 16 Mar (exclusive) -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin is planning a trip to the United States this coming November, according to the HA'ARETZ correspondent in New York who learned about it from an authoriative Jewish source who is known for his close ties with the prime minister's office in Jerusalem. It was not clear whether the trip will be official or private.

DISMANTLING OF EQUIPMENT IN YAMIT CONTINUES

TA160859 Jerusalem POST in English 16 Mar 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] Yamit -- The Stop the Withdrawal in Sinai Movement yesterday disassociated itself from Rabbi Me'ir Kahana and his followers, calling them an "unwanted element" in the anti-withdrawal struggle. This development came as Kahana's followers took over three of Yamit's shelters yesterday and converted them into private bunkers.

Labor MK Shevah Weiss has also asked Attorney-General Yitzhaq Zamir to prosecute a number of activists in the anti-withdrawal movement, including members of Kahana's Kakh group, for violating several laws, in their public statements and for their reported preparation for armed opposition to the withdrawal from Sinai.

Quoting the words and actions of the activists as screened on Israel television over the weekend, Weiss said they were a threat to public order and that their behaviour indicated preparations for armed rebellion and terrorism. Weiss listed, in his letter to the attorney-general, three laws including the fairly recent legislation against terrorism, which Kahana and his supporters had allegedly infringed.

Southern Command Maj Gen Hayim Erez yesterday visited the town together with quartermaster-general Yohanan Gur and a large party of officers. They came with maps and aerial photographs of the town on which they were seen marking buildings scheduled for evacuation. In the nearby settlements of Sadot and Nir Avraham there was considerable tension yesterday afternoon, in the light of reports that dismantling operations will begin there today. The farmers have repeatedly stated that they will not permit dismantling of anything until their compensation has been paid in full. Last night they reportedly began preparing barricades. At the same time, members of these and other Yamit area settlements were meeting in Tel Aviv yesterday with the Knesset subcommittee on Yamit compensation. At the end of the meeting it was announced that a solution acceptable to both sides seemed likely.

Dismantling of equipment began yesterday in Kibbutz Sufa, which is being moved with its members to a new site in Pithat Shalom across the green line. There were no incidents. Plans for a large-scale transfer of houses from the Yamit region to Israel proper were discussed last night by senior army officers, officials of the settlement department of the World Zionist Organization and Housing Ministry representatives.

Three settlements closest to the former border have been designated for complete transfer. Work got underway last week on dismantling the 120 pre-fab houses in Talmey Yosef, Priel and Ugda. Yesterday's discussions concerned removal of houses in other settlements as well. There are some 500 such houses in the region's other agricultural settlements and more than that in the town of Yamit.

With evacuation just six weeks away, an enormous effort would be required to remove a significant portion of the houses, many of which have to be completely dismantled. The army has brought in heavy equipment to assist the civilian agencies involved in the task. In addition to the houses, the settlement department is removing 450 dunams of greenhouses, three regional packing houses with sophisticated electronic equipment, refrigeration sheds and other equipment.

Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori said yesterday that removing all the cables and communications equipment out of Sinai by the evacuation date would be next to impossible. He told reporters in Ashkelon that, whereas most of the equipment in south Sinai would be transferred to the Egyptians or the Multi-National Force and Observers, this was not the case with regard to the Yamit region. The Ministry did not want to leave the north Sinai settlements without phone contact, so dismantling operations in Yamit and the villages could not begin. This would make it difficult to get the equipment out in time, he said.

Thirteen anti-withdrawal protesters were arrested in two incidents early yesterday morning in Jerusalem, according to police. In one incident, six "settlers" who were camped outside the Knesset were arrested and their tents confiscated, after complaints from the Israel Land Administration. No force was used. The six were questioned and freed on bail. In another incident, seven other activists, who pasted notices on buildings, were arrested. They too were freed on bail.

Stop the Withdrawal spokesman Avi Farhan and 30 squatters evicted from Hazar Adar, who were arrested last week, have had their detention extended by 24 hours. Yamit Rabbi Yisra'el Ari'el had his detention extended by four days, Farhan said.

The movement is planning a protest and march today in Jerusalem. Followers are expected to gather at the Western Wall in Jerusalem and to march to the Knesset and the prime minister's office. The protest has police permission.

Many of the demonstrators will go on to the Merkaz Harav Yeshiva for a memorial meeting for Rabbi Zvi Yehuda Kook, who died last week. Kook was the spiritual mentor of Gush Emunim.

The American Movement To Stop the Withdrawal from Sinai is planning a "march on Washington" next week in which a few hundred supporters will march with Torah scrolls to the White House to protest American policy in the Middle East and Israel's withdrawal from Sinai.

The marchers will gather next Sunday in front of the American mission to the UN in New York and are expected to reach Washington in one week. A few Israeli members of the movement, including MK Hayim Druckman are scheduled to participate in the march, according to the movement's spokesman, Me'ir Eyn-Dor, who addressed some 200 demonstrators who gathered yesterday in front of the UN to protest the withdrawal. The movement had expected more than 1,000 demonstrators.

THOUSANDS PROTEST SINAI WITHDRAWAL IN JERUSALEM

TA161715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] More than 40,000 people participated in a rally protesting the withdrawal from the Yamit District this afternoon. The rally was held opposite the Western Wall, and the demonstrators are now marching to the Merkaz Harav Yeshiva in Qiryat Moshe to participate in a memorial ceremony for Rabbi Tzvi Yehuda Hakohen Kook, who died a week ago. Hundreds of policemen are on the scene.

SHAMIR DISMISSES TALK OF LIBYAN RECONCILIATION

LD151222 Hamburg DPA in German 1133 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Jerusalem, 15 Mar (DPA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir received a delegation from the FRG Bundestag for a long talk in his office in Jerusalem today. According to his spokesman, Shamir explained the situation in southern Lebanon to his guests from Bonn. The delegation from Bonn consists of 12 deputies of all parliamentary groups, headed by CDU Deputy Gottfried Koester.

Shamir pointed out in his talk that some 30,000 heavily armed Syrian soldiers and around 20,000 "armed Palestinian terrorists" are threatening the security of the Jewish state not far from the Israeli border. Israel does not, however, have any intention of attacking "as long as we are not attacked," said Shamir. However, the situation is "very tense, and an explosion could take place any time," the minister said.

Commenting on Austrian press reports about the recent visit of Libyan head of state Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Vienna, which hint that Libya is ready for a "reconciliation" with Israel, Shamir said: "Al-Qadhdhafi talks a lot and is not to be taken seriously. There is a big difference between what he says and what he does." Shamir described Al-Qadhdhafi as a "financier of Arab, but also of other terrorism."

CONSTRUCTION OF MILITARY PORT BEGINS IN ASHQELON

TA161425 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Mar 82 p 3

[Report by 'Amos Hadad]

[Text] In a news conference at the 'Ashot plant in Ashqelon yesterday, Minister of Communications Mordekhay Tzipori disclosed that the construction of a military port for the Israeli Navy is underway in Ashqelon and construction will begin nearby on a school for navy officers. This is the first time that a Cabinet minister has publicly confirmed a fact which had been known to many local inhabitants and to the members of the Ashqelon City Council which had approved its establishment.

Groundwork is currently underway to prepare the area slated for the military port on the southern beach of Ashqelon, in the area between the national park and the port of the Ashquelon-Elat pipeline. The Ashqelon City Council unanimously approved the project in a meeting open to the public. At the meeting, Ashqelon Mayor Eli Dayan explained that the port in Ashqelon is scheduled to replace the Israeli Navy port at Sharm Ash-Shaykh and will be the largest military port in Israel.

The HA'ARETZ correspondent has learned that approximately 50 billion Israeli shekels will be invested in the project. A naval school, a civilian marina and a breakwater -- these were the city council's terms for approving the project -- will be established in the port. A model of the port in Ashqelon was built at the technion in Haifa about 1 year ago. Experts have been conducting various experiments on the impact of the port on the seashore in order to plan it according to needs in the fields. The mayor of Ashqelon added that the establishment of the military port will bring hundreds of families of navy personnel to Ashqelon, thus creating a considerable economic momentum raising the social level of the city. It is estimated that the construction of the port will begin within several weeks.

IDF Denial

TA162009 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] The IDF spokesman, reacting to reports published in the media, has said that the IDF has no plans to establish a naval base and a marina in Ashqelon in the foreseeable future.

EHRLICH DENIES GOLAN DRUZE ARE SUFFERING

TA161957 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich today toured the Golan Heights and told our correspondent, 'Amos Karmeli, that the Druze population is not suffering. If it is suffering, this is because it had volunteered to suffer. Israel has not forced the Druze to strike, Ehrlich added. He said that the Druze must obtain Israeli identification cards by 1 April, but pointed out that they would be able to remain Syrian nationals. Mr Ehrlich noted that Israel is prepared to sign a peace agreement with Syria, but not at the cost of concessions on the Golan Heights.

GOLAN DRUZE CHARGE MISTREATMENT BY IDF SOLDIERS

TA162115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich has said that if quiet is restored on the Golan, the limitations imposed on the Druze villages will be removed.

An ITIM correspondent has reported that the villagers have been complaining about the IDF's hard-line policy as part of the siege of their villages. They contend that their requests are not heeded and they do not receive proper medical services.

A group of golan Druze women has issued a manifesto in which the signatories complain of having been beaten, dragged by the hair, or arrested. Other Druze women have complained that they are not given sufficient quantities of milk to feed their children, so they are forced to give their babies sweetened water. These complaints cannot be examined because reporters have been banned from the Druze villages.

A military source has told our correspondent, Y'el Dar, that a Red Cross team which toured the Golan today has praised the medical services provided to the Druze. All the Kupat Holim sick fund clinics on the Golan are operating properly, and only four people with measles have so far been detected on the Golan.

IDF IMPOSES CURFEW ON DRUZE VILLAGE ON GOLAN

TA170916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Following riots last night, the IDF imposed a curfew on the Druze village of Majdal Shams on the Golan Heights. The ITIM correspondent reports that yesterday evening several villagers staged a demonstration against the military blockade. They were joined by youths and the demonstration grew quickly. When attempts to overturn military vehicles failed, the demonstrators proceeded to the barrier at the entrance to the village. As said, a curfew was imposed and the villagers were not permitted to leave their homes. This morning the streets of Majdal Shams were deserted. This is the first time since the 6-day war that IDF has imposed a curfew on a Druze village on the Golan Heights.

4,000 SYRIAN CITIZENS PROTEST GOLAN LAW

TA161342 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] In the ghost town Al-Qunaytirah 4,000 Syrian citizens demonstrated against the Golan law. Brandishing black flags, they carried pictures of President al-Asad and shouted slogans denouncing the law. Our correspondent, Hayim Hecht, reports that the demonstrators had been brought to Al-Qunaytirah in buses and in Syrian Army trucks.

HEBRON VILLAGE LEAGUE LEADER DENIES RESIGNATIONS

TA170538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] The head of the Mount Hebron Area Village League, Mustafa Dudin, has said there is no truth to reports that there have been resignations from his league. Speaking to our correspondent, Dudin explained that the people who had reportedly resigned had not been members of the village leagues but of the village councils. Dudin said he was currently the victim of a campaign of unfounded calumny. He emphasized that the village league's goal was to improve the situation of the farmers and it did not perform any political role.

BETHLEHEM LEADER URGES CLOSING BRIDGES TO JORDAN

TA161955 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] The head of the Bethlehem Area Village League, Bishara Qimsiyah, has asked Israel to close the Jordan River bridges if Jordan continues to threaten the area village leagues throughout Judaea and Samaria. Speaking to our correspondent, Rafiq Halabi, Qimsiyah said Jordan treats the territories like Nazi Germany, adding that Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran is Hitler. Meanwhile, today's issue of AL-FAJR carries announcements on the resignation of 10 members of the Hebron Area Village League.

WEST BANK VILLAGERS SIGN PETITION AGAINST COUNCIL

TA161042 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Some 140 residents from the village of Bayt Awwa in the Hebron District have signed a petition to the Military Government in which they express support for three local councillors who resigned. The signatories say they want to have nothing to do with the local village council, which is supported from the Hebron Area Village League.

GROUNDWORK FOR 15 WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS UNDERWAY

TA162050 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2015 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 16 Mar -- Vast work to prepare the infrastructure on both sides of the armistice line ("the green line") and vicinity is currently underway, carried out by the Jewish National Fund, which is preparing the ground for 15 settlements. These stretch from the Yattir District on the slopes of the Hebron Hills, through the Ayyalon Valley and the Modi'im area down to Nahal 'Iron in the north.

The plan to beef up the cease-fire lines through settlements is being carried out, and in several places the groundwork has already been completed, with settlements either having been established or in the process of being established -- like Kefar Mattityahu in the Modi'im area. In other places the work to prepare the infrastructure is underway, and later the settlements will be set up.

DEMONSTRATION DISPERSED AT HEBRON COLLEGE

TA161335 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Today students of the Hebron Muslim College prevented a visit to the institution by personnel from the Civil Administration. When the Civil Administration party arrived, the students brandished Palestinian flags and hurled stones. The IDF rushed to the college and dispersed the demonstration with tear gas. Our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, points out that among the Civil Administration personnel was Tziyon Gabbay, the man who had been attacked at Bi'r Zayt University several weeks ago.

BUS PASSENGERS INJURED DURING DEMONSTRATION

TA161250 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] In Ramallah, passengers in an Arab bus were injured while a demonstration near the bus station was being dispersed. A tear gas grenade landed in the bus, which then skidded off course, and a number of passengers suffered minor injuries. Soldiers and passengers smashed the bus windows to get rid of the tear gas.

DISTURBANCES REPORTED IN EAST JERUSALEM

TA170734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Female students have set tires on fire near the (An-Nuzha) school in east Jerusalem. The police have arrested one student. Youths also hurled stones at cars in Shu'afat. Our correspondent Moti 'Eden reports that the deputy commander of the Jerusalem police, Rahamim Comfort, has ordered police reinforcements to be rushed to east Jerusalem.

OAU CONDEMNS ATTACK ON ANC HEADQUARTERS

EA161310 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] The OAU today strongly condemned the bombing of the ANC headquarters, saying it was not an accident but a premeditated fascist action. In a statement, the organization said the destructive action was planned by South Africa. The OAU said the action was taken at a time when the British antiapartheid movement this year is promoting international sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime.

The OAU also condemned those plotting against the moves for sanctions against the Pretoria regime, saying that their moves to thwart sanctions will not bear fruit.

The OAU statement reaffirmed its support for the ANC, expressing its hope that it will emerge victorious in its fight against apartheid.

TRADE COUNCIL MEETING OPENS IN KINSHASA 10 MAR

AB111232 Paris AFP in English 1146 GMT 11 Mar 82

[Text] Kinshasa, 11 Mar (AFP) -- A general council meeting of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) was opened here Wednesday by Zaire's first state commissioner, Nsinga Udjuu, in the presence of some 20 delegations.

The seventh meeting of the general council was also attended by representatives of international labor organisations, and Mr Nsinga expressed satisfaction at the confidence shown in Zaire by the holding of the meeting in Kinshasa. The meeting is due to end tomorrow.

The Zairian minister in his speech stressed what he saw as the important role of the African labor movement, which he described as a factor of development and an element of unity and brotherhood between peoples of the continent.

Mr Nsinga said that the primary aim of the trade union movement in Africa must go beyond the defense of workers' interest to include the drawing up of socio-economic programs leading notably to the creation of cooperatives, peasant organizations and rest centers.

Speaking of trade union claims and demands, Mr Nsinga stressed a need to give priority to dialogue -- a "prized virtue in Africa" -- to resolve social problems.

He told the meeting that the National Union of Workers of Zaire, the country's sole labor organization, was more a "participating force" than an instrument of "tumultuous" action. Zaire's union was a "conveyer belt" between the head of the national hierarchy and the grass roots, Mr Nsinga said.

OATUU President (Ali Nafishy) of Libya called for priority to be given to the raising of the standard of living of the working masses.

The organization's secretary general, James Dennis Akumu of Kenya, pleaded for the drawing up of a "Kinshasa declaration" which would define the role of African trade unions in the continent's development.

ALGERIA

YUGOSLAV DELEGATION ARRIVES, BEGINS TALKS

LD162228 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Algerian-Yugoslav talks began this afternoon at the government palace. The Algerian delegation is headed by Boualem Benhamouda, member of the Political Bureau and finance minister, and the Yugoslav delegation is headed by the federal secretary for finance, Petar Kostic.

The talks deal with a study of some financial and economic matters to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in the framework of realizing development projects included in the 5-year plan. The Yugoslav official will hold talks with several Algerian ministers during his visit to Algeria. The Yugoslav delegation arrived in Algiers this afternoon.

CSSR EDUCATION DELEGATION ARRIVES 16 MAR

LD162308 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] A Czechoslovak delegation headed by Deputy Education Minister Marta Vlacihova arrived in Algiers today at the invitation of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. During its stay in Algeria, the Czechoslovak delegation will hold a series of meetings with Algerian officials and will visit schools in the Algiers, Oran, Tizi Ouzou Provinces.

MESSAADIA RECEIVES PALESTINE OFFICIAL 14 MAR

LD151650 Algiers APS in English 1418 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Algiers, 15 Mar (APS) -- Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, FLN Politburo member responsible for the CC Permanent Secretariat, audienced yesterday in Algiers Mr Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for Palestine Liberation (FDLP).

This meeting gave them opportunity to examine the last developments of the situation in the Arab world. Both parties, which analyzed the imperial-Zionist plots and aggressions of the reaction in the Mashreq and in the Arab Maghreb as well, reiterated both revolutions' willingness to face all the manoeuvres aiming at striking the revolutionary flow in the Arab region. Evoking the situation of the Palestinian cause, both parties expressed the conviction that a just and a lasting solution of the Middle-East problem has to pass by the Palestinian cause. Besides, both parties dealt with the good relations existing between the two revolutions, insisting upon the necessity to reinforce them in different fields and to reinforce the contacts so as to coordinate the positions before a situation constantly changing.

LIBYA

JANA COMMENTS ON PLANNED U.S. MANEUVERS IN SIDRA

LD162020 Tripoli JANA in English 1953 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Mar (JANA) -- In an urgent item from Washington, the French news agency reported tonight that the American secretary for the navy, John Lehman, announced today, Tuesday, that the American Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean would hold manoeuvres in the Gulf of Sidra on the Libyan coast during the next six months.

JANA's political editor has commented on this statement by the American secretary of the navy and said: "If the American minister's announcement is confirmed, though we do not believe this, it has no explanation justifying it except that America has decided to invade Libya. In this case, Libya must get ready to confront a big state -- and this means a third world war is imminent, for which the American administration is held responsible. For an aggression on the Gulf of Sidra is an aggression on Libyan territories and on the integrity of Libyan soil.

JANA EDITOR REJECTS MUBARAK'S NEWSWEEK REMARKS

LD162158 Tripoli JANA in English 1755 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Mar (JANA) -- In a recent statement to the U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK, President Husni Mubarak stressed the importance of resuming relations between Egypt and the other Arab countries. He said Egypt was part of the Arab homeland with which it has enjoyed good relations for hundreds of years and that the Egyptian peace treaty with Israel is not inconsistent with Egypt's relations with the other Arab countries.

Our political editor commented on the statement saying: We agree with President Mubarak regarding the need for Egypt to return to the Arab fold but not in the way Egypt has taken. Egypt's return becomes more impelling when it burns everything presented by the traitor As-Sadat as capitulationist documents which sanction dealings with the Zionist enemy.

We strongly believe in Egypt as being part of the Arab nation with which it has had historic ties. The Arab nation severed its relation with Egypt because As-Sadat's Egypt committed an act of apostasy when it recognised an alien entity planted in its heart. It had, thus, given the green light to the Israelis to expel the Palestinians from their homeland.

We do not accept President Mubarak's statement that the Camp David accords are not inconsistent with Egyptian-Arab relations because we believe the capitulationist treaty to be absolutely contradictory to Egypt's relations with the Arab nation. This is a [word indistinct] which the Egyptian president cannot neglect in discussing the question of Egypt's return to the Arab fold."

SUDANESE OPPOSITION URGES INCREASED STRUGGLE

LD170956 Tripoli JANA in English 0855 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] London, 17 Mar (JANA) -- Mr Zayn al-'Abidin, the provisional leader of the Executive Committee of the Sudanese Democratic Party, called upon the Sudanese people to escalate the struggle in order to topple the agent regime of the country.

He told a press conference held in London on Monday that the party includes more than 6,000 committee sections within Sudan in addition to the members of the party abroad who are endeavouring to overthrow the rule of stooge Numayri. Numayri is presently stirring religious and tribal conflicts leading the country towards chaos and is being used as an agent to carry out U.S. and Arab reaction schemes in the region.

Concerning the economic situation, Mr Zayn al-'Abidin said that Sudan's debts have surpassed the 4 billion dollar figure and that inflation is at 100 percent rate despite aid from other countries. He added that his party has warned these governments that the aid is looked [as received] by members of the regime and their aides instead of being invested in projects to help the Sudanese people's struggle to support its national economy.

On Sudanese foreign relations, Mr Zayn al-'Abidin said Sudan's relations with neighbouring countries are critical after the regime's alliance with imperialism and Arab reaction. The U.S. Government is backing this agent regime to help it get rid of some of its crisis and consolidate its repressive force.

On the internal situation, the leader of the Sudanese opposition said that his country is going through a state of unrest never witnessed. Railway workers and judiciary [as received] who constitute the majority of the working force staged a strike which was violently thwarted by the authorities. A large number of union members were also arrested.

Most professional and skilled workers fled Sudan to protect their dignity or seek imployment abroad, most of whom were teachers, engineers and doctors. As for the armed forces, he said, the Sudanese Army is practically finished as the hired ruling authority is backed by America.

He concluded by affirming that the regime is near collapse as the Sudanese people are determined to topple stooge Numayri.

MOROCCO

KING RECEIVES SPANISH, ROMANIAN MINISTERS

LD151310 Rabat MAP in English 1205 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] El Jadida, 15 Mar (MAP) -- King Hassan II of Morocco received here Saturday Mr Jose Pedro Perez Llorca, Spanish minister of foreign affairs, in the presence of Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs.

The Moroccan sovereign also received on the same day Mr Iqan Avram, Romanian minister of machine-building.

On this occasion, the Romanian minister transmitted the sovereign an invitation from President Nicolae Ceausescu to pay an official visit to Romania. The sovereign accepted the invitation and said this visit will take place in due time.

This audience took place in the presence of Mr M'hamed Boucetta, Mr Azzeddine Guessous, minister of trade, industry and tourism and the Romanian ambassador to Rabat, Mr Ovediu Popescu.

Romania's Avram Departs

LD170256 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Rabat, 16 Mar 9MAP) -- Mr Iqan Avram, Romanian minister of machine-building, left here Sunday after an official visit to Morocco.

During his stay, the Romanian minister was received by King Hassan II of Morocco to whom he conveyed a personal message from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The Romanian minister equally held talks with several members of the Moroccan Government namely the ministers of plan, staff and vocational training, foreign affairs, transports, equipment and energy and mining.

The Romanian minister also cochaired with Mr Azzeddine Guessous, minister of trade, industry and tourism, several work sessions during which emphasis was laid on the necessity to boost trade and in [words indistinct] between the two countries. The minutes concluded at the end of the meetings of the two delegations deals with a number of projects in the fields of mechanics, hydraulics and portuary [as received] infrastructures where Romanian collaboration can intervene.

AL'ALAM CONDEMNS 'WAR' ON SYRIA'S MUSLIMS

PM150919 Rabat AL'ALAM in Arabic 8 Mar 82 p 7

[Text] Readers have a right to know the truth about what is now happening in Syria. News agency reports are insufficient and, in fact, suspect when it comes to the cause of Islam.

What is taking place in Islamic Syria is much more than local tension and disturbances. It is now abundantly clear that there is an intention to deal a blow to Islam in Syria, the only fortress still standing fast against the Israeli invasion. One notices that the war declared suddenly on the Muslim Syrian people coincided with Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights. As a cover up for this crime Syrians were plunged into a war that nearly destroyed that fraternal country.

We support Syria in confrontation with Israel, but under no circumstances will we support the annihilation of Muslims on any pretext. Despite the long-standing differences between the Muslim Brotherhood and the Syrian Government and the implications thereof, we can say that the matter has developed into something far more than mere political differences. This is premeditated war, planned in the dark and aimed at uprooting Islam from Syria in accordance with an imperialist-communist-Zionist plot in which Israel, the church, the Soviet Union and the United States are playing parts.

This destructive civil war removes Syria from the line of confrontation with Israel and renders it incapable of waging a battle to restore honor and liberate the occupied Arab territories.

We are on the side of freedom and Islam everywhere. Just as we condemned the practices against Islam and the Muslims in the Philippines, South Africa, Afghanistan and other countries, we now unhesitatingly condemn the war now raging against our Muslim people in the capital of Islam, the seat of Muslim caliphs.

It is the Syrian regime's right to protect itself, but neither it nor any other regime has a right to wipe out and annihiliate Islam and the Muslims this way, or in any other way for that matter.

Those who plot against Islam anywhere in the world will one day see what will become of them.

SUDAN

ENERGY MINISTER COMMENTS ON OIL, AGRICULTURE

GF161048 Doha QNA in Arabic 0908 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Mar (QNA) -- The Sudanese energy and minerals minister, Dr Muhammad Sharif at-Tuhami, confirmed the presence of oil in Sudan. He said: "One of the oil wells is now being developed and improved to supply a refinery with an output of 25,000 barrels per day."

In a statement published in today's Kuwait AL-WATAN, Dr at-Tuhami noted the Kananah project in Sudan and said: "This project is considered a good example of Arab cooperation. It will meet many of the Arab world's food requirements." The Sudanese minister added: "In the framework and capacity of a project such as Kananah, it will be possible to have similar projects that can represent the basis of economic integrity with the Arab world to secure the Arab food situation."

Dr at-Tuhami noted the Arab committee for developing agriculture in Sudan and said: "The committee requires more financial and technical aid from the Arab states."

CAMEROON

STATEMENT REAFFIRMS POSITION ON OAU-SDAR ISSUE

AB170753 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Excerpts] An important Council of Ministers meeting was held yesterday at the palace under the chairmanship of Ahmadou Ahidjo, president of the United Republic of Cameroon. During the meeting, issues on both internal and external affairs were discussed.

A statement was published on Western Sahara at the end of the meeting. In the statement, the Cameroon Government reaffirms the position already expressed by President Ahmadou Ahidjo on this affair. An unacceptable decision considered null and void is what the Cameroon Government thinks of the decision by the OAU secretary general. The government considers this decision a dangerous precedent likely to bring about division within the pan-African organization. The statement adds that Cameroon's decision should in no way be interpreted as opposition to the admission of an African state to the OAU and self-determination for a brotherly people.

CHAD

KAMOUGUE: OAU SHOULD ASK FAN TO END FIGHTING

AB121550 Paris AFP in French 1335 GMT 12 Mar 82

[Text] Paris, 12 Mar (AFP) -- Kassire Koumakoye, Chadian minister of justice, said in Paris on Friday that it would be logical for the OAU to warn Hissein Habre, leader of the FAN, to lay down his arms.

He told a press conference that it isn't a government that should be told to stop fighting, but rebels. Let Hissein Habre resign, let the FAN put down its arms and rally with the government. Then dialogue will be possible, he added.

To Kassire, to negotiate with Hissein Habre would mean preparing for a third civil war in Chad. He recalled that the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT] is not in conflict with the OAU, but it deplores the procedure adopted in Nairobi last February by the OAU permanent committee to bring about reconciliation in Chad. "If the OAU agrees to renegotiate, the GUNT will agree in the interest of the Chadian people," Kassire indicated.

The Chadian justice minister also favors "a united and indivisible Chad which is decentralized and recognizes regional entities." Although a member of the "permanent committee," the management organ of southern Chad, Kassire does not favor the federal solution recently proposed by the southern leaders. The permanent committee is no longer the authorized representative it used to be; it no longer fulfills the functions for which it was created. The federation idea was rejected by the south at the time, Kassire added. "There can be no federation without a balanced economic development of the northern and southern regions," he stressed. Kassire, however, said he favors what he described as an "intelligent multiparty system," blaming the one-party system for causing the present situation in Chad.

The minister denied a massive arrest of FAN supporters in Ndjamena. People detained in prison, he said, are Chadians recently expelled from Saudi Arabia. According to him, they took refuge in that country during the fighting in Ndjamena but they were sent back by the Saudi authorities which accused them of being "delinquent."

ZAIRE

PRESIDENT MOBUTU: OUR NATIONAL PARTY IS MPR

AB152115 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 15 Mar 82

[President Mobutu's speech on 15 March at the opening of the fourth ordinary session of the Popular Movement of the Revolution Central Committee in Kinshasa -- recorded]

[Text] Citizen members of the Central Committee, the opening session of the reflection seminar that preceded this fourth ordinary meeting of the MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] took place in a mournful atmosphere following the death of Central Committee member (Boekande Lukaka). The seminar had hardly begun when the deliberations were interrupted by another painful event -- the death of citizen (Loboti Ngayonde), Central Committee member and former member of the agriculture committee. This is why before we begin our deliberations today, we must observe a minute's silence in his memory.

Citizen members of the Central Committee, on 11 January 1982, when I received the constituted body for the presentation of new year's wishes, I declared in particular that 1982 would be a great political year for Zaire. And I elaborated at length on this point. I decided not to deliver a speech at the opening session of this fourth session because I believed I had sufficiently drawn up the guidelines of our program of actionfor 1982 in my message delivered on 11 January.

Also, I will take the opportunity of the forthcoming MPR congress to take stock of the revolution. But why should I deliver a speech today in spite of all that?

Remember what happened at the end of 1980, particularly on the night of 30 December. A group of 13 parliamentarians was arrested for drawing up a seditious document threatening the internal and external security of the state. They all stood trial before the Central Committee standing committee on discipline and harsh sanctions were taken against them. A former member of the Central Committee was charged of complicity in the same matter and was also severely punished, like his accomplices. Why do you think I have recalled this?

Recently, we have noticed unusual stir in the minds of some sly people, particularly in Kinshasa. Those involved are the same 13 former parliamentarians and their accomplices whom we have allowed to go about and live freely like any Zairian citizen.

Unfortunately, those embittered persons full of hatred and resentment toward the head of state personally, possessed with deep-seated tribalism that has become second nature and trampling under foot the Constitution and the laws of our country, those embittered persons have agreed to set up a tribalist and ethnic cartel aimed at creating restlessness among the male and female MPR sympathizers.

Carrying their imagination and (?great) ambitions to extremes, they (?blatantly) pretended that they had received from the competent authorities -- I wonder which ones -- the green light to create a new political party in Zaire. They went so far as to affirm that the statutes of this wishful party would soon be approved by your head of state now speaking to you.

In all my statements both outside and inside our country, I have always made it clear that the problems we are facing are economic and social ones; we are facing no political problems. Nobody will ever prove to the contrary.

I have said on several occasions and I want to repeat it today -- loudly, publicly, plainly and emphatically -- Zaire is a unitary state and will remain unitary. Our national party is the MPR and it is the only one. As long as I am alive, this will always remain so. This is clear and distinct and cannot be questioned.

As in any organized country, we have provided Zaire with a Constitution and laws which clearly define our country's conception, options and political organization.

The Zairian citizen certainly enjoys rights. But he also has duties particularly including that of respecting above all the laws in force in his country. With regard to the MPR specifically, Article 32 of the Constitution stipulates that it is the only institution in the Republic of Zaire. Article 33 of the same Constitution stipulates that "every Zairian is a member of the MPR."

Without previously amending this fundamental option and the Constitution that consecrated it, any action outside this judicial framework is unconstitutional and henceforth illegal.

This is why no negotiations and no bargaining is conceivable or can be undertaken on this point. On the other hand, you can only discuss politics when you are qualified to do so, that is, when you have all your civil and political rights. When a Zairian citizen has been stripped of his civil and political rights for 5 years, as is the case with the 13 former parliamentarians, he must be considered politically dead. As long as the head of state does not accord him clemency, he remains dead during that length of time. And the dead cannot speak. In view of this, what use is all the vain stir?

In view of this, the authorities have never intended to let things work that way, as some militants may have believed. Our intelligence services have closely watched the least doings of each of those agitators. I personally took my time to calmly observe the situation and it paid off as we discovered other accomplices among the suspicious cadres of the party, who indulge in all forms of maneuvers under the chaste umbrellas of fraternal associations, associations of CIRET, former students, fraternities, sororities, monks associations, associations of this, associations of that.

From now on, we will only rely on committed and loyal cadres. And we must expel from among us all opportunists who have one foot in the North Pole and the other foot in the South. When the weather is bad in the South, they turn to the North. Things will no longer work that way.

I also have heard rumors that Western circles -- American in particular -- have put pressure on me, imposed conditions and issued orders to me so that a second hypothetical party will be allowed in Zaire. This is tasteless legend. Let's be serious.

I never visit foreign countries to be pressured. More precisely, when I went on a working visit to the United States, it was not to discuss the MPR. There has never been any talk of considering the creation of political parties in Zaire with whomever.

First, it would be betraying my constitutional duties and the oath I took before my people to defend at all cost our national unity, territorial integrity and the ideals of the MPR.

This would also have meant an unqualified and unacceptable interference in our internal affairs by the friendly Government of the United States. Believe me, the U.S. Government has taken care not to do it. Those who know about the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa, and more precisely its information service, can go there to verify all that I have just stated.

Our political option to bring together all sons and daughters of our country wihtin a great rallying movement designed to give them training, civic instruction, and to mobilize national consciousness is not aimed at the well-being of one man, be he the head of state. Our option is the fruit of a profound reflection over our genuine political realities. It is also the result of our acknowledgement of failure in the methods and systems servilely copied from abroad.

The multiparty system of (?1961-65) put the country to fire and sword. Forty-four political parties, tribalism, clanish spirit, seven trade unions, rebellion, secessions, anarchy, chaos. We don't want to go through those dramatic situations.

Among those agitators, you will find a lawyer who participated with me not only in the drawing up of the 1967 Constitution but also in the major decisions which constituted the basis for the political, administrative and territorial organization of our country. Indeed, all was perfect and Mobutu was an angel as long as the person concerned had a position and was close to power.

Such embittered persons, who are today reduced to their ownselves, now find that nothing is any longer all right. The people must be made restless and ethnic and tribal passions must be rekindled. Prompted by their double stand, they indiscriminately make contacts with both Western and Eastern diplomatic circles, upholding their progressive views with the latter and their democratic sympathy during their discussions with the former. But in doing so, they forget that in their opportunist behavior they make fools of themselves -- before all these people just mentioned. And we are always behind them to foil all their plots. We are even aware of the contacts made by some of them with subversive elements who have sought refuge in Belgium.

A Zairian female national employed at our Brussels cultural center was precisely a conveyance belt between the exiles in Belgium and their internal accomplices. She has exposed and revealed everything. So we now know that the tracts distributed recently by students at the University of Kinshasa and the National Teachers College were all printed abroad.

All those who (?act) from abroad do not realize the (?extent) of their acts and they do not understand how much they affect national unity and the peace we have successfully brought to our country. Their only goal is to introduce into our society the enemies of division and disorder. [Words indistinct] the authorities will deal very severely with all those who don't want to understand that it is now time for efforts toward economic and social redress in this country and that all must join hands to meet this challenge. All those taking the law into their hands will be treated as delinquents. (?They cannot) speak of human rights because I am of the view that the peace-loving citizens who go about their daily duties actively, bravely and faithfully also have rights to protect. And the most precious right of every Zairian citizen is undoubtedly his right to national unity and peace. I henceforth urgently appeal to all male and female MPR militants from all regions to remain vigilant as in the past. I formally order all party organizations, armed forces and gendarmerie to (?ensure) at all cost public order throughout the country. I appeal particularly to activist organizations for the defense of the revolution to surpass themselves and disarm all marginal and suspicious elements whose action is aimed at (?tarnishing) our revolution, which should make Zaire a united, respected and prosperous country. I thank you. [applause]

MPR ASKS ACTION AGAINST CERTAIN PARTY MEMBERS

AB121132 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 12 Mar 82

[Text] The MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] Executive Committee, in an extraordinary meeting held yesterday afternoon under the chairmanship of Nsinga Udjuu, MPR executive secretary and first state commissioner, demanded that all cadres known for their halfhearted attitude, their dubious conduct and their subversive actions be immediately ejected from all leading organs of the party.

The only topic discussed at the meeting was a general assessment of MPR activities all over the country on the eve of the 15th anniversary of the founding of the party.

After a long analysis, the Executive Committee brought up the subversive and anticonstitutional activities in which a handful of the nation's prodigal sons recently engaged, planting confusion and doubt in the minds of the militants of the party and defying with impunity all established institutions. Of particular concern are fantastic rumors on the imminent creation of a second party.

The Executive Committee asked to know what these power thirsty [words indistinct] impertinent antiparty and antirevolutionaries want if not to engender distrust and hesitation toward this choice and struggle to which the Zairian people have rallied as an organized nation, guided by the ideas of the MPR, under the leadership of a single head toward whom we must continue to demonstrate our unwavering devotion.

The Executive Committee then:

-- Strongly reaffirmed that the MPR is and remains forever our one and indivisible national party, a source of power;

-- Made an appeal to the militants to denounce without evasiveness the sworn enemies of the Zairian people and their party;

-- Demanded that all cadres known for their half-hearted attitude, their dubious conduct and their subversive actions be immediately ejected from all leading organs of the party, for we can only carry out a true revolution with true revolutionaries;

-- Mandated the Executive Council to take all possible measures immediately to prevent these uncivic impertinents from causing harm and to teach all chairmen of regional and subregional committees, zonal people's committees and village committees to take measures necessary for strengthening the supervision of the masses and revolutionary vigilance to block the way of all counterrevolutionary maneuvers.

GHANA

RAWLINGS URGES CITIZENS TO MAKE OWN DECISIONS

AB162130 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has emphasized that Ghanaians can only retain their newly-won freedom if they are well informed and are also involved in taking decisions that affect them. Addressing a rally in Bolgatanga today, he said from now on, Ghanaians are to take part in decisions affecting them. The chairman expressed concern over the suffering of the people. He observed that some people even fear to sleep since they will wake up to face the disillusionment of the next day. The PNDC, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings further stressed, has come to reverse this trend. But this will need discipline, integrity, dedication and hard work on the part of all the people. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings called on workers to take good care of property at their workplaces. They should double their efforts at work. This is because they can now reap the full benefits of their labor. The chairman said, even though he will never cheat Ghanaians since they have put their faith in him, he in turn expects the people to put much faith in themselves and in their work. They should rekindle their creative potential instead of looking to outsiders for solutions to their problems.

COMMENTATOR EXAMINES U.S. POLICY TOWARD AFRICA

AB161710 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Ofori Derbrah commentary]

[Text] It is very difficult to reconcile the U.S.' current policy of pressurizing her Western allies to apply sanctions against the Soviet Union because of Soviet Union's involvement in Afghanistan and Poland with the White House's revulsion to sanctions against South Africa generally. Any attempt to understand the apparent irreconciliable phenomenon can only be reconstructed against the background of recent historical perspectives.

After the administration of President Grover Cleveland and the Congress of 1885 that refused to ratify U.S. participation in the Berlin Conference, the U.S. role in Africa during the colonial era was peripheral. Congressional revulsion to involvement in Africa deprived the United States of the trading privileges in Europe's new colonies that the Berlin document provided, although the United States became a major market for African commodities.

As the wave of independence swept across Africa in the late 1950's and early 1960's, Great Britain's African role declined and French influence remained restricted to French-speaking Africa, which except for the coast was a human landscape of underpopulated scrub and desert. American rule in Africa was virtually nonexistent. From the late 1950's until 1977, the U.S.' African policy varied little except that its influence in Africa waned as the years passed. In most African countries, this decline of the American sphere of influence was for both ideological and strategic reasons. Be that as it may, at least in southern Africa, the United States needs to be a little more innovative and circumspective. The reasons are clear: Africa needs all her friends to complete the unfinished business of the total emancipation and liberation of the continent. It is the feeling in many quarters that the administration's politically motivated concern for South Africa's survival may blur its vision about the impact and input of the United States on the process of decolonization.

Viewed against the background in which American presidents have campaigned and have been elected, these differences of approach by successive administrations should not come as a complete surprise.

For example, whereas Kissinger -- despite his brief and successful involvement with the southern African problem in 1976 -- viewed the continent as a sleeping giant best left undisturbed, President Carter and his aides, Young, Lake and Moose, were prepared to take a more positive view. But it seems as if with every change in government there must be a shift in emphasis; so the present U.S. policymakers see Africa as an amalgam of colonially invented nations blending thousands of kingdoms and chieftaincies now subject to recurrent regional and national crises generated by tribal animosity, tribal irredentism, economic and class relations.

What still appears to be missing in the African policy of the United States of today, like the policy of its predecessors, is that the giant would not sleep forever and when it ultimately awakes the prophetic wind of change which MacMillan propounded in the 1960's will include the United States and its Western allies in all its scope and dimensions.

GRAPHIC SAYS MANUFACTURING COMPANIES TO CLOSE

AB151946 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The DAILY GRAPHIC reveals that most manufacturing companies are either contemplating closing down or declaring some of their (?people) redundant because of lack of foreign exchange to import raw materials. The paper reminded these companies that the country's coffers are dry. The difficulties in establishing letters of credit for licenses issued a year ago speaks for itself. It therefore advises all manufacturers to use local raw materials for production.

The GRAPHIC notes that the dependence on foreign exchange has contributed to the mess in which Ghanaians find themselves today. To alleviate the problem, the paper suggests that all manufacturers should take opportunity of farming and produce enough to help the economy grow. The Provisional National Defense Council should also ask all workers of dissolved organizations to go to the land. The GRAPHIC further suggests that the council should make it a condition for all manufacturers to show their contribution to the agricultural revolution before it grants them and foreign exchange.

MALI

TRAORE RECEIVES VISITING DPRK VICE PREMIER

AB151837 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Gen Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Malian People's Democratic Union [UDPM] and president of the republic, receives in audience at 1400 the DPRK vice premier, His Excellency Chong Chun-ki. The DPRK vice premier brought a message from President Kim Il-song to President Moussa Traore.

The lengthy discussions during the audience centered on the excellent relations between the DPRK and the Republic of Mali as well as on the desire of the two presidents, the two governments, the DPRK Workers Party and the UDPM and the Korean and Malian peoples to strengthen the fruitful cooperation existing between the two countries and to consolidate our friendship.

General Traore reaffirmed Mali's unflinching support for the cause of the reunification of the Korean fatherland.

The DPRK vice premier stressed that the Korean people, their government and their party are following with special attention Mali's development efforts and its courageous and perceptive foreign policy. The DPRK vice premier conveyed to President Traore sincere congratulations from President Kim Il-song on his reelection to the post of UDPM secretary general and for the important decisions made at the first ordinary congress of the party.

His Excellency Chong Chun-ki delivered a written invitation from the People's Central Committee of the DPRK Workers Party to the head of state to visit the DPRK in April on the occasion of the 70th birthday of President Kim Il-song. The head of state promised that Mali will be represented at the 70th birthday celebrations for President Kim Il-song.

Present at the audience were the DPRK ambassador to Mali; our minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; our ambassador to China and Korea, His Excellency Sekou Almamy Koreissi; and the foreign policy adviser of the head of state. At the end of the audience, the DPRK vice premier spoke to (Tsona) Mathieu Kone:

[Begin recording in Korean fading into French translation] [Chong Chun-ki] I came to deliver the personal message of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people, to his Malian counterpart, revered President of the Republic Moussa Traore. We are very moved by the very friendly and well-intentioned words of solidarity of his excellency, the president of the republic, and his active support for the just cause of our people. We are very happy about that, and this also encourages our people. We are very proud to have the Malian people as our sincere friends on the African Continent. We firmly believe that the friendship and solidarity between the peoples of our two countries will always continue to be developed and consolidated. [end recording]

Also this morning, Chong Chun-ki visited the ceramic factory of Mali [UCEMA], located in Djikoroni, in the company of the minister of state companies and enterprises. The UCEMA, symbol of the Korean-Malian friendship, was established in August 1966. Its main objective is to meet the needs of the domestic market in matters of ceramic products, especially household wares, sanitary items, tiles and various other products. The UCEMA is now being expanded to improve the quality and quantity of its products. The talks the DPRK minister held with officials there centered mainly on the difficulties faced by the factory, measures taken to overcome them, prospects for the future and proposed DPRK assistance to the UCEMA so it can become more viable.

Minister Tiacoro Diakite put special emphasis on the unselfish aid the DPRK continues to give to our country and the strengthening of the existing fruitful cooperation.

His Excellency Chong Chun-ki stressed the readiness of his country to strengthen the friendship and cooperation that has existed for years between Mali and the DPRK. In conclusion, he pointed out the common ideals of the two countries both politically and economically for the well-being of their peoples.

The DPRK vice premier also visited the construction site of the cultural palace. He was accompanied by N'tji Idrissa Mariko, our minister of sports, arts and culture, and Almany Koreissi, Mali's ambassador to the DPRK with residence in Beijing. Welcomed by Shiaka Diara Souba and Ibrahima Mariko, technical adviser and national director of arts and culture, respectively, Minister Mariko and His Excellency Chong Chun-ki had a firsthand view of the smooth execution of the construction of the cultural palace. Both expressed pleasure over the development of the ties of friendship and cooperation between Mali and the DPRK. Minister Mariko took the opportunity to commend the spirit of commitment and self-sacrifice domonstrated by the Korean workers and technicians during this period of construction. The minister assured the DPRK side of the full readiness of the Malian party, government and people to cooperate.

The DPRK vice premier declared himself satisfied with the good working atmosphere created by the Malian Government in order to make possible the construction of this edifice emanating from fruitful cooperation.

NIGER

KOUNTCHE RETURNS HOME FROM SAUDI ARABIA VISIT

AB171020 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 16 Mar 82

Excerpt] After a 4-day working visit to Saudi Arabia, President Seyni Kountche returned to Niamey late this afternoon. He was welcomed on arrival by Gen (Bite Ayi Agouba), grand chancellor of the national orders, and Lt Col (Abi Seibou), chief of defense staff. The head of state was later greeted by the members of the Supreme Military Council and the government as well as those of the corporate bodies. President Seyni Kountche answered questions from the press in the VIP lounge of the airport. The head of state first of all explained the exceptional character of this visit:

[Begin recording] [Kountche] The visit was exceptional in that it was raised to the level of an official visit, and this demonstrates the very great esteem the family of the king of Saudi Arabia, Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, has for Niger and its authorities.

[Question] Mr President, what were the major topics and the results of the talks you held with King Khalid?

[Answer] You know that in a few months time Niger will be hosting the foreign ministers conference of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. It was therefore normal that we should discuss this with the competent Saudi authorities and His Majesty King Khalid. This is because this conference is to take place in Niger in the heart of Africa and also because we, the Niger authorities, attach the greatest importance to the success of this conference.

We took this opportunity to discuss the ways and means of strengthening our solidarity [words indistinct] as well as the possibility of finding new methods of action to fortify the faith of our coreligionists. Of course, we also discussed our bilateral cooperation. [passage indistinct]

[Question] During your stay in Saudi Arabia you received a number of personalities, including the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, who later talked about the difficulties being experienced in the realization of the regional Islamic university. What are the problems?

[Answer] [passage indistinct] A protocol agreement on the third (?contributions to the fund) will soon be signed in Jidda. This agreement will enable the realization of the project.

[Question] [passage indistinct] What hope does Niger place in this Islamic conference?

[Answer] Niger is proud to belong to the Islamic community. In the name of the Niger people, I promised that this conference will be successful. The Niger people will demonstrate their great attachment to this community. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

SENEGAL

INFORMATION MINISTERS CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

AB161321 Paris AFP in French 1310 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Dakar, 16 Mar (AFP) -- The conference of African information ministers, which began in Dakar on Monday, has been adjourned "sine die" due to the withdrawal of many member countries, Djibo Ka, Senegalese minister of information, announced on Tuesday.

Senegal has been charged with organizing consultations with the aim of a new meeting of the conference in Dakar.

Further on Adjournment

AB161507 Paris AFP in French 1414 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Dakar, 16 Mar (AFP) -- The OAU information ministers conference was adjourned sine die in Dakar on Tuesday after the walkout of 14 member states to protest the Senegalese authorities' refusal to let the SDAR delegation take part in the conference.

The adjournment was announced by Senegalese Information Minister Djibo Ka after a final meeting of 18 delegation heads present at the conference on Tuesday afternoon.

Djibo Ka stated that this decision was arrived at following the walkout of several OAU member states "for reasons best known to themselves."

The 14 countries that walked out of the third session of the information ministers conference on Monday and Tuesday had, on 22 February in Addis Ababa, voted in favor of admitting the SDAR to the OAU, however, this was contested by 19 countries. They considered the decision made Sunday night by Senegalese authorities to turn the SDAR delegation back from the Dakar airport as illegal.

Immediately after the opening session on Tuesday morning, the heads of delegation from Burundi and Uganda, who arrived the night before, announced their withdrawal, thus following the steps of Algeria, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Benin, Ethiopia, Angola, Sao Tome, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, all of which walked out on Monday.

Stressing that the countries that decided to continue with the session remained attached to African unity, the Senegalese minister announced that he had been charged -- as president of the conference, in collaboration with the OAU Secretariat General -- to undertake a consultation mission aimed at organizing a new conference in Dakar.

In a separate communique, the OAU Secretariat General noted that the 2/3 majority required by the OAU Charter has not been attained in Dakar, and that the decision to postpone the ministerial conference session to a later date was made "to safeguard the supreme interest of the African peoples expressed by the existence of the OAU."

UPPER VOLTA

BRIEFS

WEST GERMAN AID -- Ouagadougou, 14 March (AFP) -- Agreements on West German aid to Upper Volta totalling 55 million marks (24 million dollars) were initialled here yesterday by Voltan Economy and Planning Minister Mamadou Sanfo and the West German charge d'affaires in Ouagadougou. The aid, which is a straight gift, will pay for the completion of the Kompienga Dam in the southeast, the supply of water to nine communities, help the national agricultural credit fund and provide other goods and services. [Paris AFP in English 1036 GMT 14 Mar 82 AB]

ANGOLA

'SOURCES' REJECT MALLAN'S CHARGES ON SWAPO

AB161500 Luanda ANGOP in French 1400 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Luanda, 16 Mar (ANGOP) -- Authorized sources contacted by ANGOP in the Angolan capital have strongly rejected the statement made recently in Pretoria by Gen Magnus Mallan, South African minister of defense, according to which SWAPO fighters are being trained at a base in central Angola.

According to the authorities contacted, who consider the South African minister's statements provocative and ridiculous, there is no SWAPO training base in the central region or anywhere else in Angola.

In this connection the same sources added that SWAPO has its support and training bases in Namibian territory despite the occupation of that territory by the South African forces of oppression. These sources stressed that SWAPO exists among the Namibian people themselves and not in the People's Republic of Angola where there are only refuge camps for the aged, women and children who have succeeded in escaping the racist murderous hordes.

Referring to another passage of the general's statements alleging that SWAPO fighters are sent from Angola dressed in South African uniforms, Luanda comments that such allegations are ridiculous and should therefore not be taken seriously. A black man can hardly be mistaken for a white only by wearing a uniform or a freedom fighter for a mercenary or a vile paid killer.

Finally, regarding the intention, according to General Mallan, to discredit the black soldiers serving in the territorial army, the same circles in the Angolan capital stressed that such elements were discredited a long time ago in the eyes of the Namibian people and of the world because they are nothing but puppets and traitors in the pay of South African racists.

SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY FORCES CARRY OUT RAID IN ANGOLA

LD161554 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] The security forces of South Africa and South-West Africa/Namibia have killed a further 201 SWAPO terrorists in a military operation codenamed (?Super) carried out in southwestern Angola. The names of three members of the security forces who were killed in the operation were announced yesterday. The security forces drove 22 kilometers into Angola at (Camield) in the mountain terrain. Clearing-up operations are still continuing. Sixty tons of SWAPO weapons, ammunition and food were seized and a number of terrorists were taken prisoner.

Radio RSA's military correspondent, who visited the region of the attack, said 45 members of the security forces had crossed the border in a normal followup operation. They had made contact with about 250 SWAPO terrorists near Cambeno and a fierce fight had developed on Saturday morning. Nearly 200 terrorists had been shot and further troops had been flown in by helicopter in efforts to round up the terrorists who had fled. According to the officer commanding the operation, Capt Jan Hougaard, initially the terrorists had given strong resistance using mortars and SAM-7 missiles in addition to small arms fire. The security forces had used small arms, 81-mm mortars and restricted air support in the attack.

Our military correspondent reports that clearing-up operations might still last several days. It is almost certain that more arms caches will be found. Captain Hougaard said enough rice had been found in the SWAPO camp to feed 300 men for 48 days. Most of the food had come from France, Denmark and the Soviet Union, but tinned meat from Zimbabwe had been found in a SWAPO camp for the first time.

COMMENTARY: SWAPO DELAYING SETTLEMENT TALKS

LD162130 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] We comment on SWAPO obstructionism: It could be that the SWAPO show of intransigence is aimed at some cheap publicity or it could be that SWAPO is genuinely opposed to aspects of the phase I settlement proposals. But either way SWAPO is causing serious delays in the settlement negotiations. News this week is that SWAPO delegates have held talks in London with British foreign affairs officials to once again object to the constitutional proposals contained in phase I of the settlement plan. South Africa, constantly accused of intransigence by her critics and particularly by SWAPO, has fully accepted the phase I proposals and is anxious to get over the phase II negotiations. And indeed, the record shows that all along it has been South Africa that has cooperated with the West in trying to bring about a settlement in the territory.

There was a similar situation in April 1978 when the plan by the Western five for a settlement in the territory was accepted unconditionally by the South African Government. Then too, SWAPO held back, and by exerting pressure on the then secretary general of the United Nations, Dr Kurt Waldheim, the plan was so warped in the eventual report by the secretary general that it proved unacceptable. One thing is sure, South Africa will not fall for any changes now to the phase I settlement plan proposals. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr R.F. Botha, has indicated that as far as South Africa is concerned it is up to the West to cope now with an intransigent SWAPO.

Any move to try to persuade South Africa to accept revised or new proposals will destroy the confidence which this country has built up in a Western contact group. An opinion endorsed by Dr Chester Crocker, who himself said it was necessary to build up a dialogue of mutual confidence. One probable reason for the SWAPO delays is that the terrorist organization has been hard hit on the battlefield in the past year, and as a military machine it has been all but destroyed. SWAPO would dearly love to chalk up some military successes prior to an election, as this would increase its effectiveness in intimidating the local population. A measure of SWAPO's desperation is the murdering last week of 10 unarmed Ovambo civilians by a terrorist group. In the final analysis, therefore, the situation right now is that SWAPO is delaying the settlement negotiations. South Africa is keen to continue.

BRIEFS

TRANSVAAL PARTY EXPULSIONS -- The Executive of the ruling South African National Party in the Transvaal Province has expelled 10 of its members of Parliament and 4 members of the provincial administration from the party. The committee, under the chairmanship of the new Transvaal leader, Mr F.W. de Klerk, decided unanimously to terminate the membership of the 14 men because of their refusal to conform to the committee's decisions. The statement said it was quite clear that the parties involved had no interest in remaining within the National Party. [Text] [Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 15 Mar 82 LD]

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA, NYERERE SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

LD141600 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 0400 GMT 14 Mar 82

[Text] The presidents of Zambia and Tanzania have signed an agreement establishing a joint commission of cooperation between the two countries. Presidents Nyerere and Kaunda met in Lusaka for 2 days to review bilateral relations, especially those pertaining to the operations of the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority, Tazara. They received progress reports on the operations of Tazara and examined in detail the operations of the railway as well as related matters affecting the port of Dar es Salaam and Zambia railways payment procedures. In this connection, the two leaders reviewed and agreed on a number of measures to improve the operations of Tazara. They explored the means of further expanding the scope of their cooperation in various fields.

The two leaders exchanged views on political, economic and social cooperation between the two countries. Similarly, the presidents noted with great satisfaction that their countries' bilateral relations continued to grow, (?consolidate and be) further strengthened. The summit between the two presidents was held in an atmosphere of complete trust, mutual brotherhood and cordiality.

BRIEFS

SOVIET DELEGATION -- During a meeting today with a three-man Soviet delegation led by Central Committee member Lionginas Shepetis, President Kaunda lauded the late, great Russian revolutionary Vladimir Lenin. Mr Shepetis presented the president with a small statue of Lenin during the meeting at State House. President Kaunda said Zambia and the Soviet Union cooperate in the common struggle against exploitative international capital and its offshoots and against poverty and its evil offshoots. Shepetis who is also speaker of the Estonian parliament, [as heard] praised the heroic struggles the people of Zambia waged for their independence and their many sacrifices for the liberation of southern Africa. Dr Kaunda later hosted a luncheon for the visitors. [Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 8 Mar 82 CA]